

## Muslim riots against Americans spread

Anti-American violence spread further in the Muslim world, where the United States is rumoured to be responsible for the attack on the Great Mosque in Mecca. The Beduin, who seized the mosque at gunpoint, were driven back to the perimeter wall yesterday. They have proclaimed a new Mahdi, to lead Islam.

## Shock waves from the Iranian revolution

Edward Mortimer  
The Iranian revolution, and the shock waves from it, are spreading in the Muslim world. The shrine of the Kaaba in Mecca continued to reverberate with the "Muslim world" yesterday, the third day of the 1400 in the Islamic calendar. Anti-American rioting spread in Turkey, where Muslim students shouting anti-American and anti-Zionist slogans led to the storming of the residence of the United States' consular general in Izmir, and in Baghdad, where about 300 students demonstrated in front of the American Embassy in Mecca, accusing the CIA of involvement in the Mecca attack. In Damascus, a Syrian radio broadcast also blamed the United States for the incident, warning an immediate American protest. In Mecca itself, fighting continued inside the shrine, with official reports saying that government troops had driven Beduin insurgents to the floor of the perimeter wall. The insurgents are not members of the Shia sect to which the Kaaba belongs, as is one early report had said. They came from the Oteiba, a Beduin tribe in central Arabia, and are thought to be members of the Ikhwan, or "Brothers", a religious movement which adheres to an especially puritanical version of the Sunnah, or orthodox Islam. The Ikhwan were the "black troops" of King Abdulaziz, the founder of Saudi Arabia, when he was

building the Saudi kingdom in the early years of this century, but later got out of hand and had to be suppressed by force. Certainly, on the religious level these extreme puritans would have little in common with the Shia, which emphasises the ceremonial and hierarchical aspects of Islam; and their action in seizing the shrine is profoundly shocking to the great majority of Muslims whether Sunni or Shia. But on the cultural level they may be expressing a revolt comparable to the Islamic revolution in Iran, aimed against the corruption and westernisation that has come with the oil wealth. Certainly their revolt, coming on top of the Iranian revolution and the attempts by some Iranian leaders to stir up the Shia population on the Arab side of the Gulf against their Sunni rulers, is a severe blow to the prestige of the Saudi royal family, which had hitherto appeared to be in total control of its country and to have the status of religious authority on its side. It was natural in the circumstances that some Saudi leaders should have jumped to the conclusion, when they first heard of the incident, that Iran and the Shia were behind it, and perhaps understandably that Ayatollah Khomeini, in his present state of anti-American hysteria, should have suspected an American plot to turn Muslims against each other.



Coming home: Sgt James Hughes of the United States Air Force embraces his son upon arriving in Maryland with 12 other hostages released earlier by Muslim students occupying the American Embassy in Tehran. They were met by Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State.

## 2,000 Saudi troops drive Beduin back to walls around Kaaba

From Our Correspondent  
Jiddah, Nov 22  
Fighting continued inside the Holy Haram, surrounding the Great Mosque of Mecca this afternoon. Latest unofficial reports said that an estimated 2,000 troops had driven the Beduin insurgents to the first floor of the perimeter walls. The Haram is an open area large enough to accommodate 100,000 people. It is ringed by a one-storey wall built by the Ottomans and a surrounding two-storey wall of King Saud's that contains offices and arched covered areas for praying. In the centre of the Haram stands the Kaaba, the housing for the Black Stone that is the focus of prayers and pilgrimage. The 300 Beduin, mostly young men of the Oteiba tribe, armed with automatic rifles, entered the Haram at the dawn prayer on Tuesday, the first day of the Muslim fifteenth century. They demanded an official declaration by the Imam in charge of the Haram that their leader, a 26-year-old Beduin called Muhammad Abdulrahman, was the Mahdi prophesied as the cleanser of Islam. He refused. The authorities closed the 27 doors to the Haram, and the Beduin locked them from the

inside and prepared for a fight. There cannot have been fewer than 5,000 people in the Haram at the time, although no official figures are available. A successful assault by the Saudi forces was made early this afternoon, but although the ground floor and the open centre of the Haram were cleared, the advance was slowed by stiff resistance and the presence of about 500 worshippers. There are thought to have been no more than 20 civilian casualties in the initial fighting. The Imam, Shaikh Subayyal, survived, although an assistant and three unarmed policemen were killed. People were cleared from the surrounding area yesterday, and although more normal communications between Saudi Arabia and the outside world were restored, security was tightened in Riyadh, round the American Embassy here, and at the Prophet's Mosque in Medina. Contrary to reports, no hostages were taken. The Beduin made no attempt to detain those in the Haram when they took it over, and many escaped through holes in the wall left by workmen. Those who stayed

behind apparently did so voluntarily, preferring to continue their devotions. The only official statement today on the fighting came this morning from Mr Muhammad Abdul Yaman, the Information Minister, who said that many prisoners had been taken. He expected the opposition to be crushed "in a few hours". The Army penetrated into the Haram followed at least four unsuccessful assaults which witnesses said were "fought off with heavy casualties". Beduin snipers in the seven minarets of the Haram proved effective, and an earlier attempt to pick them off from helicopters was repulsed. In one assault, shells fired to shatter doors, went right through them and killed worshippers inside. The troops involved are drawn from every section of the Saudi armed forces, equipped with armoured troop carriers and jeep-mounted recoilless rifles. The risk of damaging the Kaaba clearly precluded the use of heavy weapons. Prince Sultan, the Minister of Defence and Aviation, and Prince Naif, the Interior Minister, were directing operations. Who are the Oteiba? page 6

## Mr Jenkins wants 'radical centre'

By Fred Emery  
Political Editor  
Making what he admitted was an unashamed plea for the strengthening of the "radical centre" in British politics, Mr Roy Jenkins, the former deputy leader of the Labour Party, last night came out for proportional representation in elections.

Giving the eighth Richard Dimbleby lecture on BBC 1 in prime time, Mr Jenkins argued that the excessive partisanship of the present system fostered the industrial mood that was "rapidly turning Britain into a manufacturing desert". He would not finally say that a change in political alignments would be bound to improve British national performance, but he thought it would help, and it would certainly improve our politics.

Mr Jenkins argued that the aspirations of the British people would be met by a revival of the centre in politics. He said "pull far more towards the centre than towards the extremes". However, he kept viewers guessing over how or whether he would return to British politics from the EEC.

He has just over a year left of his term as President of the EEC Commission in Brussels. Last night the most tantalising remark he made was to state about the time of his resignation that he was "emerging in the light of a new reality than by old labels". He spoke frequently of a "break out", of escaping from the "confining rigidity" of the present party system. While promoting proportional representation, Mr Jenkins also came out strongly against the left wing of the Labour Party in its present government. He said that if the Labour Party was to be re-elected it ought to be by a full primary election not by a "people's court". He was also anxious over the "unstable" "relieving force" for the Labour Party which he saw as the trade unions. If that happened he doubted whether the British people would want both a trade union-dominated and a non-trade union government of the power of the unions. Re doubted it would be elected.

## Treasury forecasts point to sharp downturn in output

By Caroline Atkinson  
Britain faces a sharp 2 per cent fall in output next year, according to the Treasury's new forecasts which were published yesterday. In addition, inflation is expected to stay in double figures throughout 1980. However, it should fall back to 14 per cent by the fourth quarter of next year, compared with the present rate of 17 per cent. A £2,000m balance of payments deficit is also projected for 1980, below this year's expected £2,300m deficit.

Yesterday's forecasts were much more pessimistic than those published at the time of the Budget in June. They assume that the level of pay settlements is now coming down in response to the Government's fiscal and monetary policies.

The stock market fell slightly on news of the Treasury's gloomy figures. The Financial Times ordinary index closed 0.2 points down on the day at 411.0. Sterling was little affected and finished slightly higher against the dollar at \$2.175.

The forecasts were hedged about with warnings that they were extremely uncertain, and subject to exceptionally wide margins of error. It is known that the Treasury ministers had severe disagreements with officials about the time of the forecasts. The Treasury economists originally projected a fall of 3 to 4 per

cent in output and a higher inflation rate. The dismal picture from the forecasts was reflected in a warning from Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the "process of adjustment to economic reality cannot be free from pain". Speaking at a conference of the Westminster Chamber of Commerce yesterday, the Chancellor stressed the overriding priority which the Government gives to reducing inflation. The Government believes that lower inflation is the first step towards prosperity. Yesterday's forecasts indicate that the road to lower inflation could be very hard. Real personal incomes are expected to fall next year as British output drops, though the Government does not put a figure on this fall. Figures published yesterday by the Department of Health and Social Security assume that pay will rise on average by 14 per cent in 1979-80 and 1980-81. Surprisingly the Government forecasts a rise of 0.5 per cent in consumer spending next year. This will come as people save less and spend more of their incomes, according to the official assumption. Despite the drop in output and rising oil revenues from the North Sea, the Treasury expects a huge payments deficit on the current account of the balance of payments next year. Britain's trading performance has been little short of

Continued on page 15, col 5

## British plan sets up 5 sites for front men

Detailed British proposals for a ceasefire presented to the Rhodesia Front forces to enable them to allow monitoring. The Rhodesia Front report with arms and ammunition to a larger number of intermediate collection points, at which a Front representative and monitoring team, no police or defence forces, would be present. Front supporters would be routed safe passage from collection points to assembly places. The process, the British say, should take no more than seven days after ending of hostilities. Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Jerry Mugahe, the Patriotic Front leaders, are flying to Dar es Salaam at the weekend to talk about the state of the conference and the prospects for the future. Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugahe did also brief Zambia, Tanzania, Botswana, Mozambique, Angola, on the British proposals for a ceasefire. If the front-line states accept the proposals the Patriotic Front leaders will be permitted to announce their acceptance when they return to add early next week. Prisoners freed, and British flag pulled down, page 7

## Examination day on dead Russian

A post-mortem examination is to be held today on Mr Nikolai Gostol, aged 52, a member of the Russian trade mission, who was taken by bulimia to Whittington Hospital, north London, yesterday. He was found to be dead on arrival. The police could not confirm a night report that Mr Gostol had died after being injured with a possibly toxic substance, as in the case of Georgi Markov, the Bulgarian defector. An officer said: "There is no suspicion of foul play."

## 10 book reviews

is Times Literary Supplement returns today with a special 48-page issue containing reviews of 50 new books of the year.

## Mr Fitt quits party over stand on talks

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Reporter  
Mr Gerard Fitt, leader and founder of the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Ulster, resigned from the party yesterday after a fundamental disagreement with the majority of his colleagues. He had resigned because "I could no longer live with my conscience as a socialist and as a social democrat", he told a press conference at the Commons. His departure comes after his failure to persuade the executive of his party to attend the Government's proposed four-party conference on devolution for Northern Ireland. "It is obvious there is no meeting of minds between me and my colleagues", he said. Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who dismissed suggestions that the proposed conference was "futile", said tribute to Mr Fitt in the Commons. He said: "It must be a sad moment for him to have felt it necessary to resign from the leadership of the party which he founded."

Answering Northern Ireland questions in the Commons, Mr Atkins said he hoped that people could be persuaded that the conference, where all the parties sit down together, was the best way forward.

## Proposals to reduce Britain's EEC burden

The European Commission has proposed that Britain should get a refund of £340m on its contribution to the EEC budget next year and receive relief from expenditure on coal mining, agriculture and road improvements. Plans to save £500m by cutting assistance in milk, sugar, beef and cereal producers, were also disclosed. Page 6

## Professor Blunt kept watch on exiles

By Stewart Tendler  
and Ian Bradley  
At the time Professor Anthony Blunt, the "fourth man" in the Philby Affair, was passing information to the Russians, his job at MI5 included watching various exiled governments based in wartime London. The governments included those of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Poland, Greece, Holland, Belgium and Norway. Professor Blunt would have been in a useful position to pick up intelligence of value to the Russians in the postwar period when the countries were being reconstructed. Details of the politicians, their attitudes and their private lives might have aided the Russians in assessing the successful spread of communism after the war. In the wartime years there were power struggles within the Yugoslav and Polish groups, and the Russian might have been able to play. The exile groups also included politicians with left wing persuasions. Again, the Russians would have been interested in how far those persuasions went and could be of use. According to a former Secret Service colleague, Professor Blunt was also responsible for monitoring neutral embassies in London. These included Spain and Portugal, whose then fascist

regimes were regarded with suspicion. In the wartime years and for some time afterwards MI5 also had responsibility for security in the colonies and kept close liaison with colleagues in the Dominions, which included Canada and Australia. One of the men later found responsible for passing nuclear secrets to the Russians was Dr Klaus Fuchs, who was passed by MI5 as clear of security risks despite the fact he had been a communist. Dr Fuchs was interned in Canada for a time in 1940. MI5 also overlooked the political sympathies of Dr Alan Nunn May, a friend of Mr Maclean at Cambridge, who also passed on nuclear secrets in Canada until 1945. In his interview with The Times this week Professor Blunt said that his activities for the Russians during the war included merely routine information on his colleagues. When he reached a more responsible position "it was almost entirely about the German intelligence services. Largely intercepts, mainly internal, and people who were not aware of what the British authorities knew about Soviet activity in Britain. Continued on page 2, col 1

## Heart transplant operation for man, aged 29

A heart transplant operation was announced yesterday on a man aged 29 at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge. Last night a hospital spokesman said the man was recovering from the six-hour operation well. The hospital would not name the recipient of the new heart or the donor. The operation was performed by a team of surgeons and anaesthetists led by Mr Terence English, who led a similar team in August when Mr Keith Castle was given a new heart. Mr Castle has since left the hospital, but returns for occasional checks.

## BL chief warns union over dismissed man

The union directly involved in the dismissal of Mr Derek Robinson, a British Leyland convenor at Longbridge, was warned by Mr Parry, BL director of personnel, that industrial action in his support was jeopardizing the company's future. Meanwhile, Mr Mostyn Evans, Transport and General Workers' union general secretary, called for a meeting between unions, Sir Michael Edwards, BL chairman, and Mr Lowry. Page 2

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## Mr Lee fears for Kampuchean race

Fears for the future of Kampuchean race are expressed by Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister of Singapore. He wants Western Europe, Japan and the United States to impose sanctions against Vietnam until its troops leave Kampuchea. Page 7

## Mayor's plea refused

The Supreme Court of Israel declined to hear an appeal by the mayor of Nahal against a government decision banishing him to Lebanon. It refused to order his release, saying he must first appeal to a military advisory committee. Page 7

## Miners' pay: "Barometer" of industrial leaders vote unanimously for industrial action

"Quango" axed: Government to scrap Personal Social Services Council. Page 4

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## HOME NEWS

## BL warns union over striking in support of dismissed steward

By Clifford Webb and Donald Macintyre

Mr Pat Lowry, British Leyland's director of personnel, last night warned the union directly involved in the dismissal of Mr Derek Robinson, the convenor, that industrial action in his support was jeopardising the future of the company. About 32,000 workers are on strike.

Mr Lowry took the unusual step of sending an open letter to Sir John Boyd, the union's general secretary, attempting to justify in detail the decision to dismiss Mr Robinson. He did so after an informal meeting with Mr Lawrence Duffy, the union's president and two members of the executive of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

On Tuesday, the executive is expected to consider calls for strikes in support of Mr Robinson to be made official.

Mr Lowry wrote: "Those of British Leyland employees now on strike must make up their minds, and quickly, where they stand. They can return to work, leaving the AUEW, if it so desires to pursue the normal channels. Alternatively they put at risk the company and their own future in it."

With both sides digging in for what could be the most critical confrontation since Sir Michael Edwards became chairman of British Leyland,

## Speaker considering privilege complaint

By George Clark Political Correspondent

Mr George Thomas, Speaker of the House of Commons, is giving urgent consideration to a complaint from a Labour MP that Mr Julian Amery, Conservative MP for Brighton, Pavilion, has committed a breach of privilege when he said on a television programme that there were a dozen traitors in the House of Commons.

Mr Amery made his allegation during a television interview with Mr Robin Day on BBC2 after the conclusions of the Commons debate on Professor Anthony Blunt. He said that he believed there were a dozen traitors in the House of Commons, "who more or less follow the Communist Party line and are in regular contact with the Soviet Embassy."

Mr Thomas intervened when Mr Robert Crier, Labour MP for Keighley, tried to raise the subject matter of his complaint in the Commons. Mr Crier had just got to the point of saying that "totally inaccurate and misleading remarks" when the Speaker interrupted.

He said it was the rule of the House that an MP did not refer to the subject matter of a privilege complaint until he (the Speaker) had mentioned it in the House.

"I am giving urgent consideration to it and he will hear within a reasonable time," Mr Thomas said.

Last night Mr Crier confirmed his complaint in a letter to the Speaker. Mr Amery is considering making a statement in the Commons today.

Earlier, in a statement made outside the Commons, Mr Martin Flannery, Labour MP for Sheffield, Hillsborough, challenged Mr Amery to name the 12.

It was Mr Amery's duty to put them on the record and prove his allegations to be true,

Mr Thomas said.

Mr Thomas said that he had not heard the calls in the confusion at the end of the debate. It was nevertheless open to any MP to have shouted louder or to have made a request for a division.

He acknowledged that there had been an error in the Hansard record of the events, and that was being put right.

Mr James Callaghan, the Opposition leader, yesterday renewed his demand for an inquiry to be set up, "under Lord Diplock or someone of that calibre" into whether any change is needed in relations between ministers and the heads of the security services.

Mr John Hume, a fluent French-speaker with an international reputation, a Euro-MP, and deputy leader of the party,

Mr Gerard Fitt yesterday bowed out of the party he founded, worn down by the growing of its political complexion. The nationalist element in the Social Democratic and Labour Party, always a powerful force since its creation ten years ago, have gained the upper hand.

Mr Fitt, the Belfast working-class socialist who grows a de-tasteful of strident nationalism, whenever its manifestation, has been pushed aside.

Voluble and emotional, not even he can eclipse his image of being a man of courage, even when he sometimes gives the impression of being the fourth man in a Marx Brothers film, wisecracking his way

through the maelstrom and chaos in his beloved province.

Perhaps Westminster got it only half right, because Mr Fitt has seen the darker shading of the green in his party or someone. He represented the urban working class, Catholic minority of Belfast, but out in the countryside the nationalists inside his party, equally as articulate and in some cases better educated, were moving in for the takeover. The SDLP, he tells his close friends, is "going Provo."

But there is no denying his courage. He has fought for his political views in the security of the parliamentary chamber and on the dangerous streets of Belfast. He has gone further by fighting the IRA in his home, holding them back with his gun

when they invaded his house.

Mr Fitt will continue in Parliament as a socialist, always the former merchant seaman, waiting in his seat on the back benches with a rolling gait as if the Chamber was on some unknown sea. His popularity, however, is not as great as it used to be. Many Labour-back benches feel they have been betrayed.

This distancing, the lowering in the temperature of warmth towards him, despite his infectious charm and ebullience, began when the Labour Government was defeated last year.

Mr Fitt's vote was crucial, but he also persuaded the Ulster Independent, Mr Frank Maguire, to abstain. The Government, as a consequence, fell.

A rough of low pressure will move S over central parts.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight: London, SE, central E, SW England, East Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Islands: Cloudy and misty, hill fog at times, a light rain in the evening, becoming more persistent in evening; wind SW, light or moderate, freshening later; max temp 11° to 13° (52° to 55°).

W Midlands, central N England: Cloudy, misty, hill fog, rain or drizzle at times, clearing in evening; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 12° to 14° (54° to 57°).

Wales, NW England: Cloudy, hill and coastal fog, rain or drizzle, clearing with showers in evening; wind SW, fresh or strong; max temp 12° to 14° (54° to 57°).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, N Ireland: Bright intervals, occasional showers or longer outbreaks of rain, becoming scattered in evening; wind SW, fresh or strong; max temp 11° to 12° (52° to 54°).

NE England: Bright intervals, showers or longer outbreaks of rain, becoming mainly dry in evening; wind SW, moderate or strong; max temp 10° to 12° (50° to 54°).

Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Moray Firth: Sunny periods, scattered showers; wind SW, moderate or strong; max temp 6° to 8° (43° to 46°).

Central Highlands, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll: Sunny intervals and showers, becoming heavy at times and with snow on mountains; wind SW, fresh or strong; max temp 7° to 9° (45° to 48°).

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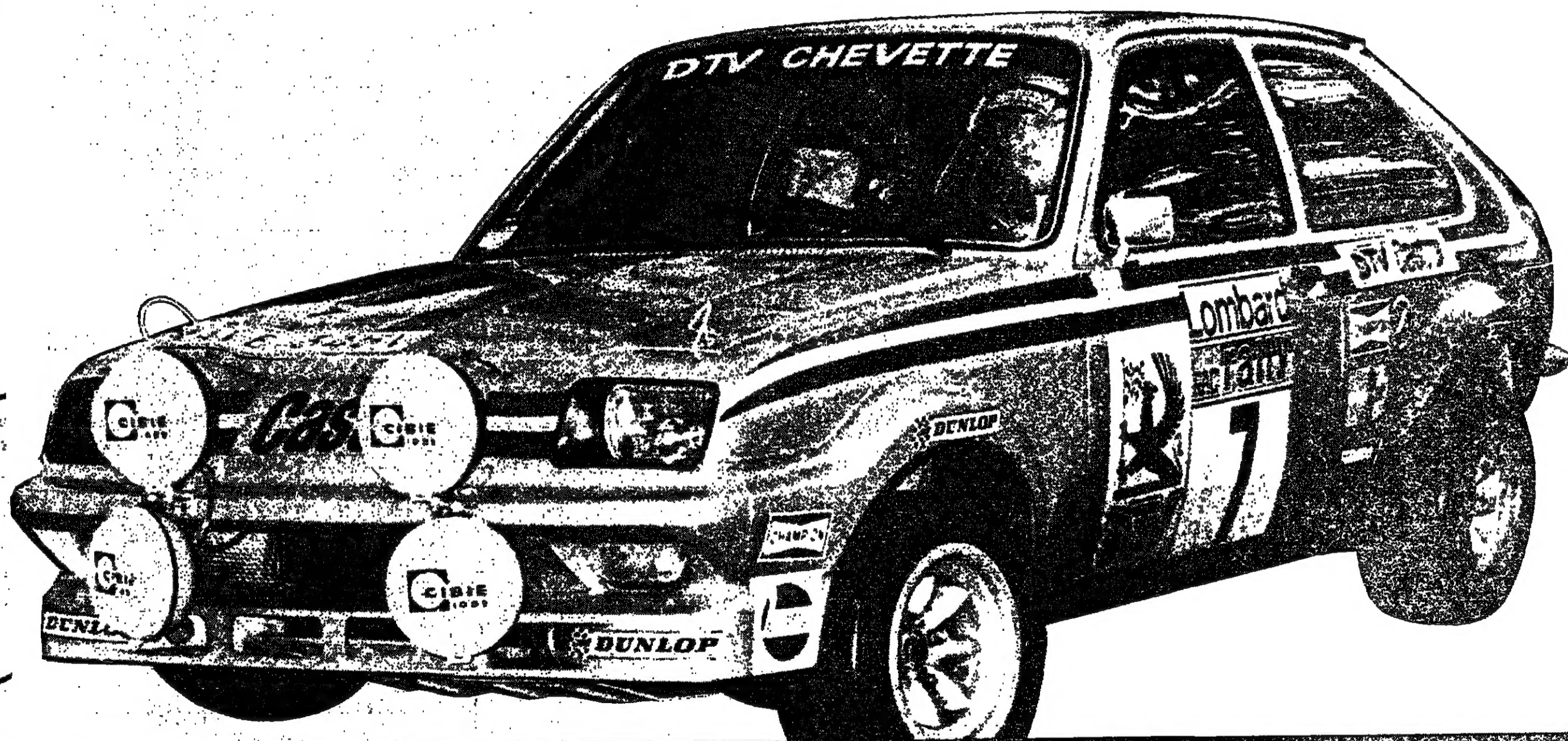
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# The new champion.



## Pentti Airikkala - Vauxhall Chevette

Pentti Airikkala, driving a Dealer Team Vauxhall Chevette, became the new British Open Rally Champion\* at the end of the crippling Lombard RAC Rally on Wednesday night.

It's a fitting climax to a great season for DTV and the Chevettes.

Pentti himself with fellow Finn Risto Virtanen won three international rallies outright: the Circuit of Ireland, the Scottish, and the Ulster. On that last rally, DTV's other driver Jimmy McRae followed Pentti home in a triumphant Chevette one-two.

Jimmy too has had his share of success. He came a close second in the Castrol/

Autosport British Rally Championship driving the S.M.T. single-cam Chevette.

Meanwhile the Evans brothers in their Vincent Greenhous Chevette were runners-up in the Esso/BTRDA Championship.

And abroad, Jan van der Marel in another Chevette won the Dutch Rally Championship for the second year running.

All of which says a great deal for the drivers and mechanics.

And even more for the robust and reliable Chevette. Congratulations to all concerned. It's clearly a winners' car.

**VAUXHALL**  

\*Subject to official confirmation.



## HOME NEWS

## Report going to DPP on man who died in custody of police

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

A comprehensive report on the death of Mr James Kelly while in police custody has been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Kenneth Oxford, the Chief Constable of Merseyside, said in a statement issued yesterday.

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation, told members in the Merseyside Police last night: "You all know that a campaign of abuse has been going on in this area for a long time."

"Recently it has been taken up by television and radio, by the national press, by some MPs and by the usual rag-bag of people who spend most of their time in sniping at the police service. I am sorry to say that some members of the Merseyside police have also climbed on the bandwagon."

One of the MPs concerned, Sir Harold Wilson, who represents Hutton, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, told him in a letter on November 20 that he was aware of the public disquiet and of the demands for a public inquiry.

An investigation into the death of Mr Kelly, aged 35, a labourer, was carried out by Mr David Gerry, an assistant chief constable of the West Midlands Police. Sir Thomas Hertherington, the DPP, is to give his independent consideration to the possible need for criminal proceedings.

In accordance with the Police Act, 1976, a report will be sent to the independent Police Complaints Board for its consideration and possible need for disciplinary proceedings.

Sir Harold said on Wednesday: "I still believe that an impartial and independent inquiry is necessary, but clearly this would be a long time, if there was any reference to the courts."

"I trust therefore that every effort will be made to decide this issue and that if there is no prosecution, the independent inquiry I have proposed will be set up, whether as a tribunal or in some other way, which will enable them to compel evidence and to give confidence to the public as to its thoroughness."

The call for a public inquiry was endorsed by Knowsley District Council. A motion to that effect and, also expressing alarm

at recent police activities in the Hutton area, was passed unanimously.

Mr Jardine told Merseyside policemen last night that the chairman of their branch board, PC F. Jones, had spoken about "the vicious campaign which has been mounted against the Merseyside Police."

Mr Jardine went on: "I can tell you that there are signs of a technique in which police forces are being picked off one at a time. The idea is to get together examples of one or two cases and build up a picture of a brutal police force."

The 200 members of the Special Patrol Group in London were depicted as some kind of occupation army having more in common with the Gestapo and the SS than the British police, he said.

The SPG amounts to less than 1 per cent of the total strength of the Metropolitan Police," he said. Its members mostly carried out routine duties to aid the permanent divisions.

"Yet every crime in the book is laid at the door of a handful of men. They are slandered on posters and in certain sections of the press as murderers. As far as Blair Peach is concerned, we must await the findings of the public inquiry."

Referring to complaints against Merseyside policemen accusing them of brutality and assault, he did not deny that there were serious issues. But Britain was one of the few countries in the world which had a law laying down proper procedures for the investigation of complaints against police.

The police had done nothing to be ashamed of as a service. He asked that all people with responsibility for the wellbeing of the public, stand by the rule of law and make it clear that they support the aims and objectives of democratic policing.

Mr Jardine added: "We do not complain about being accountable. I know that I speak for everyone in this hall when I say that we do not seek to protect the corrupt policeman. What we object to is the constant attacks on a system of accountability that is greater than that which exists in any other public service in this country."

## Bigger lorry call by industry

By Michael Bailey  
Transport Correspondent

The Government is coming under renewed pressure from industry to raise lorry weights from 32 to 40 tonnes without waiting for a decision by the EEC.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Transport Minister, is maintaining a non-committal attitude to the issue, pending the report of Sir Arthur Armitage into lorries and the environment, expected about the middle of next year.

In its evidence to the Armitage committee, published today, industry's leading voice on transport, the Freight Transport Association, says that because of conflicting political and commercial interests, the number of lorries cannot be expected for some time.

Meanwhile Britain will continue to suffer a considerable commercial disadvantage through having the smallest load-carriers in Europe, 32 tonnes, compared with France and Germany 38, Belgium and Luxembourg 40, Denmark and Italy 44, the Netherlands 50, and Sweden 54.

As an interim step towards the 44-tonne, six-axle draft proposal which was recently advanced by the Brussels Commission, the FTA proposes a 40-tonne, five-axle maximum.

That, it argues, would give a 10 per cent cost saving and an 8 per cent weight saving over the present 32-tonner without increasing either the maximum size of lorries on British roads or environmental damage.

It concludes that in some circumstances a 10-tonne lorry may cause more road damage than a 32-tonner. That is more than cancelled out by the reduction in the total number of lorries needed.

A combination of the two factors means less, not more road damage, FTA says, quoting studies by the Government's Transport and Road Research Laboratory.

Because damage to roads, bridges and buildings is a function of axle-load rather than overall weight, the lorry they propose would be less damaging, with proper weight distribution and taking into account the power lorries needed, the FTA says.

They could also be safer because they would be subject to the same safety regulations as the 32-tonner. Their greater efficiency could pay for design improvements.

Sir Arthur Armitage, aged 62, is Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Common Law at Manchester University. He is chairman of the inquiry and is aided by four assessors.

## Flat fire kills two children

Gemma Allan, aged six months, who was in her pram, and Graham Blair, aged three, died yesterday in a bedroom fire in a second-floor tenement flat in Pavis Crescent, Aberdeen.

The girl's four-year-old brother was taken to hospital with minor burns and shock.

## Advice body on personal services to be scrapped

By Pat Healy  
Social Services Correspondent

The Government is to scrap the Personal Social Services Council, one of the last two policy advisory bodies to ministers, as part of its axe on quangos.

The decision, expected to be announced before the end of this parliamentary session, is seen as a political move to silence a watchdog which has been critical of local and central government policy on social services.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, has announced his intention in letters to the two main local authority associations which meet half the cost of the PSSC. The Association of County Councils and the Association of Municipal Authorities have been asked to respond by December so that Mr Jenkin can announce his decision after consulting them.

He proposes to retain some of the functions of the PSSC in other ways, notably by transferring research to the National Institute of Social Work. He will continue the statutory children's committee set up by his predecessor, initially for three years.

The committee is administered jointly by the PSSC and the other surviving advisory body, the Central Health Services Council, which is also believed to be in danger.

Scrapping the PSSC will save little money. The budget for next year has been set at £214,000, shared equally between the Department of Health and Social Security and the local authority associations.

Some of the budget will still have to be spent, since the PSSC fulfils a statutory role in providing advice on children to the Secretary of State. The council was established in 1973 and replaced three advisory bodies covering children, old people and the handicapped.

The last Labour government scrapped policy advisory bodies on education and housing.

The future of the PSSC is expected to be discussed at a routine meeting next week at the department. Neither local authority association is expected to object to the proposal to scrap it. They have been irritated by its critical reports, notably on the quality of care in residential homes for children, old people and the handicapped.

Several directors of social service want the PSSC to continue its work as the only guardian of social service standards in England and Wales.

They are angry what they see as a lack of real consultation, since Mr Jenkin has not proposed options for the council's future but has said that he will close the PSSC unless the associations propose "overwhelming case" for it to continue.

Mr Jenkin's decision is believed to have been taken very recently. A factor may have been the council's work in monitoring social service cuts. Its last report pointed out that, contrary to Government statements of intent, the most vulnerable people were being hurt by the cuts.

That report remains a staff document, but it was widely endorsed by the council, half of whose members are appointed by the Secretary of State to give representation to providers of specific services in the voluntary sector and academic expertise. The other half are nominated by the local authority associations and professional bodies.

The council was established as a research and development advisory body and has initiated investigations into areas of social service work which might otherwise have been ignored. Much of its work pursues subjects which support government policy.

It is not yet clear how soon the council will be axed. About 16 staff members are expected to lose their jobs.

## Maternity grant now 'less than in 1911'

Of the countries in Europe, only France has a lower maternity grant than Britain and even some Third World countries such as the Ivory Coast pay more, a report from the National Maternity Grant Campaign, published yesterday.

British mothers get £25, against grants of more than £200 in France, Belgium and Luxembourg. The study shows that the grant is worth less in real terms than the £150 paid to mothers when the grant was introduced in 1911.

A minimum of £85 should be

paid to pregnant women, regardless of whether they have paid the correct number of National Insurance contributions, the report states. That would have cost the country an additional £9,520,000 in the year ended March 1978.

It suggests the introduction of a prenatal allowance, as paid in France, which at the child benefit rate of £4 a week, would have cost about £102,360,000 over the same period.

"Together the cost of both reforms amounts to less than 0.8 per cent of what the country

## Polytechnic cancels its graduation ceremony

By David Nicholson-Lord

Graduation ceremonies at the City of London Polytechnic were cancelled yesterday because of fears of disruption by protests at the increase in fees to overseas students.

News of the cancellation was sent by letter to the 500 students who were to have been awarded their degrees and diplomas at the ceremonies at Guildhall on November 30 and December 14. The reason given was the possibility of disruption occupying parts of the polytechnic for the last three weeks.

The cancellation was condemned by the students' union. Miss Anne Davies, its president, said the action had been taken without consultation. The occupation had been peaceful and

there had been no threat to disrupt the proceedings.

"A lot of people will be very disappointed," she added. "After studying for three years they want to feel that somebody in the polytechnic has actually realised their existence."

Mr Peter Burrell, secretary of the polytechnic, acknowledged that there was no specific threat of disruption at Guildhall, but an "extremely slight" risk remained.

"We felt it was wrong to place at risk premises like Guildhall, which do not belong to us, and the many people who would be there."

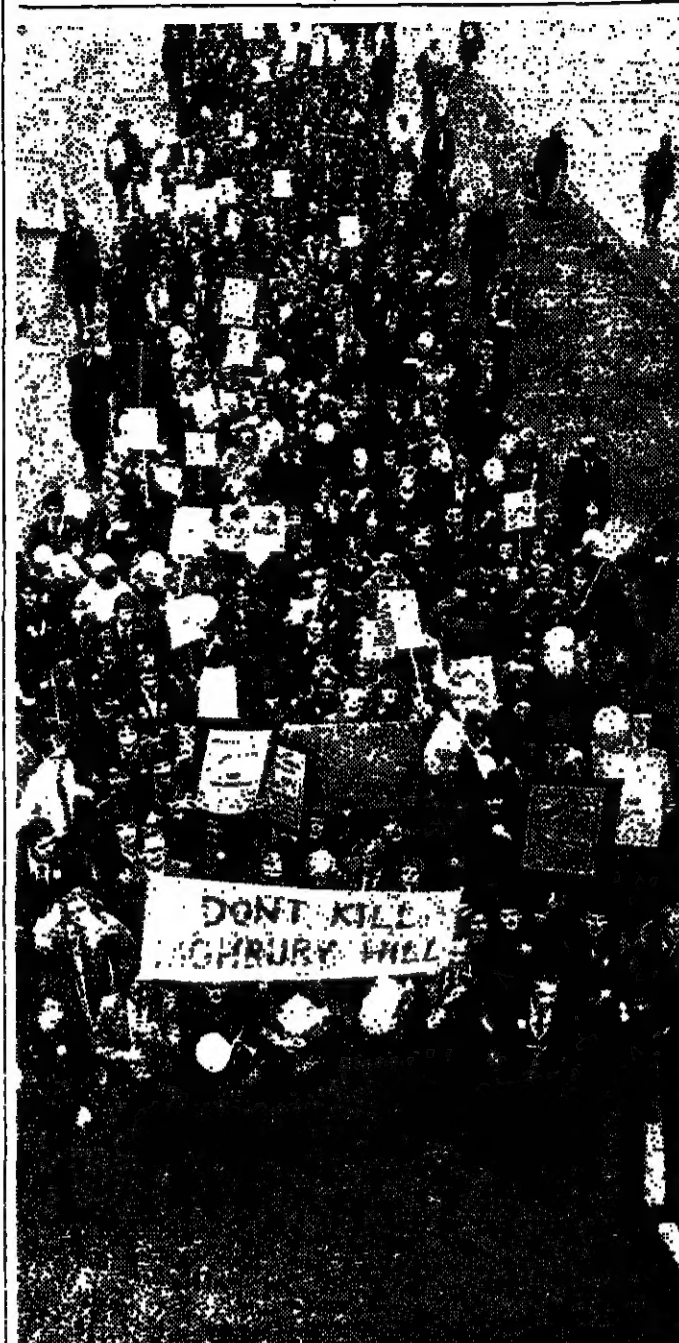
The students' action is part of a national campaign by the National Union of Students against fee increases to over-

seas students. Some 150 students at the polytechnic are occupying a registry. Mr Burrell said it was not known whether a new date was to be fixed for the ceremonies.

Lord Boyle's warning: Overseas students could be priced out of British universities and end up studying "red letters" in the Soviet Union. Lord Boyle of Handsworth, Vice-Chancellor of Leeds University, said yesterday (the Press Association reports).

That could "come about because of Government proposals to increase overseas student fees, an idea said it would be a lasting loss, both political and educational, to this country."

He said that all over the world there were men and



Parents and children marching yesterday in protest against plans to close two schools in north London.

## Parents and children in protest

By Ian Bradley

About 600 parents and children from Highbury Grove and Highbury Hill schools, in Islington, north London, marched through central London yesterday to present a petition to Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, asking him to reject proposals by the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) for the closure of the two schools.

The proposals are for the merger of Highbury Grove, a single-sex boys' school, with Sir Philip Magnus School, and Highbury Hill, a girls' school, with Shelburne School.

Highbury Grove school, of which Mr Rhodod Boyson, the Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Education, was headmaster from 1967 to 1974, has a firm commitment to traditional methods of learning and discipline. It believes in streamlining its pupils and in corporal punishment.

It also has a good record of academic achievement. Last summer it obtained 220 higher grade (A to C) O level passes and 48 A level passes. By contrast, Islington Green, a mixed comprehensive school in the borough that will remain as it is in the ILEA plans, obtained only 22 higher grade O level passes and just two A level passes.

Mr L. J. Norcross, Headmaster of Highbury Grove, said: "We are afraid that the merger will change the character of our school."

"Our intake at present at 240 pupils a year, with Sir Philip Magnus School 90 pupils a year. Yet the proposals are for the new amalgamated school to take only 90 pupils a year."

"There is a certain element in County Hall which has always disapproved of the kind of school we are and feel that we are an impediment to the kind of educational progress they want to see."

The ILEA said yesterday that the proposals were made because the number of pupils over 11 in the borough would fall by 46 per cent between 1978 and 1986.

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## Big rise in unemployment among youth may mean a demand for £22m aid

By Mark Jackson  
The Times Educational Supplement

New official forecasts of youth unemployment next year will face the Government with the need for its first Unemployment Bill since the White Paper on the subject.

The forecasts, which are published in full in *The Times Educational Supplement* today, have been prepared by Manpower Services Commission economists from the total unemployment projections of the London Business School.

They show school-leaver unemployment rising from 10 per cent to 12 per cent, and a total of more than 400,000 young people under 19 out of work in January, 1981.

The commission's figures are a "policy off" that, it says, include those temporarily in unemployment, but not those working, unlike the published Department of Employment statistics, which show only those who are on the unemployment register at the time.

Unemployment among young people is usually approaching its annual low in January, by which time most school-leavers have found jobs.

The forecasts say that the true figure for leaver unemployment was 32,000 in January and will rise to 172,000 by January, 1981, and to 214,000 in the next 12 months.

Unemployment among people under 19 as a whole will rise, they say, from last January's 254,000 to 395,000 in 1981, above the record winter peak of 1977 and reach 478,000 at the start of 1982.

By 1982, they add, there will

be nearly three times as many young people in the 16 to 18 age group as there have been in the past 10 years for more than three months.

The forecasts will be put before the Manpower Services Commission at its monthly meeting in Sheffield next week, together with a proposal to expand the Youth Opportunities Programme, which provides courses and work experience for the jobless under 19s.

The commissioners will be told by their officials, in a report intended for submission to cabinet, that the programme needs to provide another one-fifth to a quarter more places if under-19s are to be kept out of unemployment which have been added by the Government's new measures.

The officials say that the cost of the additional places will be £22m, almost as much as the cut imposed in the White Paper on the existing programme's planned expenditure.

There is no prospect of finding the money within the trimmed budget without damaging its quality. The commission says it expects that the £22m will have to come from the Government's contingency fund.

The officials say that the projections of youth unemployment cannot be taken as a precise forecast, and that their proposals are based not on these figures, but a "very cautious" estimate, which reflects the Government's own assumptions about unemployment generally and makes no allowance for the fact that youth unemployment generally rises faster.

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## Rate support grant upset averted

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government Correspondent

The chairman's casting vote yesterday saved the Association of Metropolitan Authorities from passing a highly embarrassing resolution rejecting as "completely unacceptable" the Government's recently announced rate support grant settlement.

The resolution was proposed by Mr Jack Smart, leader of the Labour opposition on the Conservative-controlled association, which represents councils in Greater London and the main contributions in England.

The vote was 37-37, with one Labour and two Conservative authorities absent, so Mr A. G. Taylor, chairman, used his casting vote to defeat the resolution.

Control of the association has been on a knife-edge since the last local government elections, and subsequent local changes reduced the Conservative majority to one.

Last week the association described the rate support grant settlement as "basically fair and just to authorities and rate-payers alike." The Government certainly expects the three main local authority associations, all of which are Conservative-controlled, to support its policies without complaint.

Mr Taylor told yesterday's meeting that local government should produce cost-effective services that were right for those receiving them and right for those paying for them. The problems are great, but by overcoming them we are doing ourselves a disservice.

A document prepared by Mr Tom Caulcutt, the association's secretary, indicated that to keep to the Government's guidelines of a 13 per cent cap on inflation rate over the next year, pay settlements in local government would have to be restricted to 9 per cent.

That figure was in addition to comparable rises needed to protect the public from inflation. Mr Smart, a trade union official, said that unions wanted to make reasonable claims aimed at maintaining their members' living standards. Inflation could soon be 20 per cent, and he could not deliver a settle ment based on a 9 per cent increase which, in fact, would be a reduction in wages of 11 per cent.

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A document prepared by Mr Tom Caulcutt, the association's secretary, indicated that to keep to the Government's guidelines of a 13 per cent cap on inflation rate over the next year, pay settlements in local government would have to be restricted to 9 per cent.

That figure was in addition to comparable rises needed to protect the public from inflation. Mr Smart, a trade union official, said that unions wanted to make reasonable claims aimed at maintaining their members' living standards. Inflation could soon be 20 per cent, and he could not deliver a settle ment based on a 9 per cent increase which, in fact, would be a reduction in wages of 11 per cent.

The officials say that the projections of youth unemployment cannot be taken as a precise forecast, and that their proposals are based not on these figures, but a "very cautious" estimate, which reflects the Government's own assumptions about unemployment generally and makes no allowance for the fact that youth unemployment generally rises faster.

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## £20m extra subsidy to help the hill farmers

By Hugh Clayton  
Agriculture Correspondent

Hill farming subsidies are to rise by up to half at an extra cost next year of £20m, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday. As the owner of a sheep farm in a steep, hilly area, Mr Walker said that hill farmers would benefit.

The increase represents a substantial expression of our belief that hill and upland farmers should enjoy a reasonable standard of living," he said. The new rates will apply to almost nine million animals and will cost a total of £75m next year, of which three-quarters will be paid by the Government and a quarter by the EEC.

The maximum payment for a sheep will rise from £3.60 to £5.50 and the rate for cows will go from £29 to £35. Mr Walker said that hill farmers had suffered badly in the hard winter, early this year and that autumn prices for stock for fattening had been low.

He predicted "a substantial year" for this important sector of farming. His statement was welcomed by the National Farmers' Union, but will encourage French farmers to intensify their assistance in the form of lamb from Britain. One of their main complaints is that British sheep farmers receive large Government subsidies.

The size of the increases shows that the Government has decided to exempt farming from its programme of spending cuts. Ministers are submitting a long list of projects in favour of agriculture to the EEC under a Community rule of 1967.

Two projects have been approved in Scotland and ministers have asked the aid towards building facilities in England and Wales to extract juice from surplus apples. Eight projects are being put forward.

Appeal for aid: Government wants to protect the wildlife habitats from the impact of modern farming methods. Professor Norman Moore, chief advisory officer of the Nature Conservancy Council, said yesterday.

The Government spent £540m a year on agricultural improvement and £7m on conservation, he told a conference at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire. An imbalance of this proportion could lead to the loss of wildlife heritage, he added, and in next farm incomes this

appearing them we are doing ourselves a disservice.

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## WEST EUROPE

## Commission proposal to refund Britain £340m on EEC budget

From Michael Horsby  
Brussels, Nov 22

Britain would get a refund of about £340m on its contributions to the EEC budget next year and receive a further unquantified amount of relief from increased Community spending in Britain on the coal industry, agriculture, and road improvement, under proposals announced here today by the European Commission.

Roy Jenkins, the President of the Commission, will put the proposals to Mrs Thatcher and other EEC heads of Government at their summit in Dublin in November 29 and 30. The Prime Minister has said that Britain's estimated 1980 budget deficit of £12,000m must be brought into broad balance.

In a separate move, Mr Finn Olav Gundelach, the Commissioner for Agriculture, disclosed plans for cutting financial aid to milk, sugar, beef, and cereal producers. He claimed that these proposals would reduce projected EEC spending on the farm sector by about £550m over a year.

Mr Gundelach's proposals will not be discussed in detail at Dublin, but their announcement, due in December, was brought forward to show Mrs Thatcher and her EEC colleagues before the summit that the Commission is serious about tackling agricultural surpluses.

The initial British reaction to the Gundelach plan was distinctly hostile. The British Government, like its Labour predecessor, has complained bitterly about the heavy charge of agriculture on the EEC budget.

After a meeting with executives of the British Sugar Corporation, Mr Peter Walker, the Minister for Agriculture, said that the sugar proposals, aimed at reducing the Community's sugar surplus by one million tonnes, would put an "unfair and illogical burden" on British producers. He called on the Commission to "reconsider" the "unacceptable" ideas.

British officials were equally harsh about the Commission's proposals for increased taxation of milk producers. Milk and sugar production in Britain, they argued, are only a part of domestic demand and were not responsible for the surpluses.

Yet because British producers were more efficient they would be disproportionately penalised. Under the Commission plan, the tax on milk would go up to 0.5 per cent on April 1, and dairies would have to pay a further tax estimated at 3 per cent.

The Commission aims to cut the sugar surplus from three million to two million tonnes.

mainly by reducing the amount of sugar eligible for price support and increasing the tax on production. British producers claim that the quota they have been offered of 936,000 tonnes could lead to the closure of half the sugar beet factories in Britain.

Mr Gundelach denied that the milk tax would penalise producers unfairly: "They are not being asked to reduce production but merely to stop increasing production in the future. The situation now is that anyone can produce anything he likes and sell it at someone else's, the taxpayers' expense."

Milk production the EEC is running at 15 per cent above demand. The dairy sector accounts for about 45 per cent of all spending on farm price support and about 30 per cent of EEC budgetary expenditure.

Among the Commission's proposals for increasing spending in Britain are proposals for encouraging the use of coal in power plants and subsidising EEC-produced coal. That could Britain, which is the biggest coal producer in the EEC.

The Commission document says that if Britain joined the European Monetary System it could become eligible for investment loans at subsidised rates of interest.

The Commission also describes as "useful" an Italian plan whereby the EEC would, over a number of years, devote an increasing proportion of Community funds to industrial investment, regional development and farm modernisation.

Hugh Clayton, Agriculture Correspondent, writes: British complaints about the cost of EEC farm policy were repeated in London yesterday by Herr Josef Ertl, West German Minister of Agriculture. "It has not been my country which has forced up agricultural prices in the Community," he told members of the German Community Chamber of Commerce.

"Over the past four years our nominal agricultural prices have increased by 16 per cent against nearly 30 per cent in the United Kingdom," he said.

Herr Ertl rejected British proposals for small farmers on the Continent to be kept in business with social payments and subsidies. "High farm prices and said the common agricultural policy did not need reform. All the necessary instruments for correcting imbalances were available and included sugar, quotas, and production levies on milk."

Tate & Lyle welcomed the plan to cut sugar beet quotas. The company, which refines cane sugar, said dumping surplus sugar had depressed the world price of sugar and had cost Community taxpayers £350m a year.

## Britain on collision course with EEC

By Hugh Noyes  
Parliamentary Correspondent  
Westminster

Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, set the Government on a collision course yesterday with the European Community, when he made clear in a debate in the Commons that the solutions to Britain's huge imbalance in contributions to the EEC budget must be radical, permanent and immediate.

Seldom has a government left itself so little room for retreat or manoeuvre and rarely, on EEC matters, has the Commons been so united. Opposition and Government, MPs for and MPs against the Community, rallied round the Chancellor as he told them that the problem must be solved at next week's Dublin summit once and for all.

It was enough for the Community to offer temporary measures which would afford relief for a year or two and which at the end of that time would leave Britain in an intolerable situation as an inconvertible currency area.

From the Labour benches Sir Geoffrey had the full support of Mr Peter Shore, Opposition foreign affairs spokesman and a long time opponent of the EEC. Gladly he recited his warnings of seven years ago, when he had told the House that the present imbalance in our contributions would inevitably take place.

More significantly, Mr Shore served warning that Britain and the EEC were now on a collision course and that the unwillingness to change a deliberately and successively state-made policy by the Prime Minister, Mr Shore said, it was not good enough to rattle the chains and if need be they must be cut.

Indeed, the Chancellor, by the Prime Minister's side, seemed only too well aware that he was heading down a road which the Government could return only in glory or in ignominy. If nothing was changed at Dublin, Sir Geoffrey said, Britain, seventh in order of gross national product, would be left far and away the largest contributor to the Community budget in 1980.

The Chancellor said he was not wedded to any particular solution, but the method would be an entirely new and separate mechanism. Another could be a single rule limiting Britain's net contribution in a way which would satisfy the Government's overall objective. A further method could be to raise receipts per head.

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## ISLAMIC UNREST

## Irish elder statesman encouraged by Iran to mediate in dispute with US

From Robert Fisk  
Tehran, Nov 22

Mr Sean MacBride, a former Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and one of the founders of Amnesty International, flew into Tehran today at the invitation of the Iranian Government to try and break the deadlock over the American diplomats held hostage at the United States Embassy here.

Mr MacBride, who holds the Nobel prize and Lenin peace prize and the American Medal of Justice, held talks with Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the Iranian Foreign Minister, and said later that he felt "the way could be open for discussions between the United States and Iran."

This is the first time since the embassy siege began almost three weeks ago that the Iranian authorities have encouraged the intervention of a potential mediator between the two countries.

Mr MacBride was carrying with him a message from Mr Amadollah Khomeini, the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution, and from the Council of Ministers of the Islamic Republic, who is a leading member of the Council, does not appear to have any intention to negotiate on behalf of the clergy.

Mr MacBride, however, has one thing in his favour: during the last 10 years of the Shah's

shortly after the Second World War and was once chief-of-staff of the IRA, has a considerable record as an intermediary. He negotiated the release of Archbishop Makarios from the Seychelles and undertook the talks which led to the release of Archbishop Beatty, who was imprisoned in Czechoslovakia.

He took a message from Pope Paul VI to the Hanoi Government during the Vietnam war and spent some time in North Vietnam with Mr Ramsey Clark, whom Mr Carter sent on an abortive mission to Iran to come to the American hostages earlier this month.

The initiative for Mr MacBride's intervention appears to have come from Unesco but the Iranian Foreign Ministry then issued an invitation for him to come to Tehran. Mr Bani-Sadr today and was to have further talks with him tonight.

Nevertheless, it is Ayatollah Khomeini and not the Revolutionary Council which controls domestic and foreign policy in Iran, and Mr Bani-Sadr, who is a leading member of the Council, does not appear to have any intention to negotiate on behalf of the clergy.

Mr MacBride, however, has one thing in his favour: during the last 10 years of the Shah's

## Turkish students attack home of American consul

Ankara, Nov 22—Islamic students shouting anti-American slogans and anti-Israel slogans today tried to storm the residence of the United States consul-general in the western Turkish port city of Izmir.

The students, who were protesting against the accusation of gunning down the Great Mosque in Mecca, hurled stones at police outside the building before being pushed back by security forces. Five students were arrested.

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## Tass accuses White House of trying to put all blame for crisis on Iran

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, Nov 22

In an attempt to exploit the tensions between the United States and Iran, the Russians have gone as far as possible to supporting the Iranian seizure of the American Embassy without actually doing so.

In the past week the Soviet media has played a widespread coverage to accusations that the United States was putting pressure on Iran, threatening to use military force and hounding Iranian students in America.

Reporting by Tass has been carefully selective, giving prominence to the statements of Ayatollah Khomeini that the embassy was a centre of espionage while saying little of the situation of the hostages or of appeals by the United Nations Security Council for their release.

More than a week ago Tass rejected American accusations that the Soviet press was spreading "completely unacceptable" commentaries on the crisis. It also denied that its reporting had been tendentious, saying it was all known that the Soviet Union upheld the principles of international law.

Since then Tass has reported that the American campaign against Iran has intensified. The Iranian Foreign Minister has been quoted as saying that the Soviet press in America were hounded and insulted by individuals and by official reports from New York said the freezing of

Iranian assets had caused considerable anxiety in America and Western Europe and could cause new currency problems in the Western world.

Yesterday Tass Reported that the American position had become "more rigid and obstinate" and that the White House was trying to put all the responsibility for the crisis on Iran. It said that President Carter's statement that remedies other than peaceful ones were available to the United States was being interpreted as "a direct threat to use military force against Iran."

The one-sided coverage of Iran appears to be motivated by Soviet propaganda, which has been reported by the American press as well as the Iranian press. But this call has not been repeated in the Soviet press, which never refers to Soviet foreign language broadcasts.

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## Air controllers in France resume ban

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, Nov 22

Air traffic controllers at centres throughout France resumed today to resume disruptive action which is stopping the majority of flights taking off from the country's airports. They had called off the action, which has been going on for more than three weeks, for 24 hours to await the outcome of talks last night with M Roger Machenaud, director of Air Navigation.

The controllers' representatives said after the meeting that although they had been able to talk about the whole range of their claims from better pay to higher Manning levels, they had left in no doubt that Mr Machenaud was in no position to negotiate.

The authorities have taken disciplinary action against 42 controllers at Lyons airport and 26 at Marseille, forcing them off for periods of between one week and three months, because of their support for the union ban on carrying aircraft.

The unions do not meet again until Monday to decide their next step.

## Genscher supper to draw sting from Soviet criticism

From Patricia Clough  
 Bonn, Nov 22

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, discussed world security problems with his West German counterpart, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, here today.

The two are understood to have exchanged views on the expected Nato decision in December to deploy medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe and simultaneously to propose negotiations with the Soviet Union on arms reduction.

West German officials said the talks were being held in a "very good constructive spirit" and the mood was "personally very pleasant" and "very good" for the Chancellorship.

Herr Genscher went out of his way to create a friendly climate for the talks by inviting Mr Gromyko to his home for a private supper last night.

Observers suggest that the pleasant atmosphere may have been specially emphasized to counteract the effect of repeated personal attacks by the Soviet press on the German Chancellor during his campaign to sway West Germany against the Nato plan.

The ministers first reviewed Soviet-West German relations which they agreed were going well and important to efforts for East-West détente.

Mr Gromyko agreed with his host that the situation in West Berlin, especially vulnerable to expressions of Soviet displeasure because of its isolated position inside the city, should remain peaceful. They agreed to seek pragmatic solutions to the city's outstanding problems.

One guest who was to be conspicuous by his absence at the banquet in Mr Gromyko's honour was Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the opposition candidate for the Chancellorship.

Herr Strauss is displaying an ostentatiously cool attitude to the Soviet visitor. Aides said that he had not made any special effort to arrange a meeting with him and pointed out that Mr Gromyko had not shown any particular anxiety to see Herr Strauss.

It appears that Herr Strauss has been expecting an invitation to Moscow for some time and did not want to appear to be pressing for it.

drawn attention recently to the many "convergences" between Genscher and Strauss.

M. Charles Pasqua, until recently deputy Secretary-General of the RPR, has been the greatest influence in the party. In two articles in the independent left-wing daily Le Matin earlier this week, he attacked President Giscard d'Estaing and his "double talk" which illustrated a "conservative, even reactionary" state of mind.

These are all straws in the wind. What they add up to is a growing conviction by a growing number of Gaullists and Socialists that they need one another to stop M Giscard d'Estaing in 1981. The problem for the Gaullists is whether they should call on their traditional ally, the Socialist Party, or the RPR.

What is certain is that a substantial number of Gaullists will not vote for M Giscard d'Estaing under any circumstances next time, and M Mitterrand, since the end of last year, sees the distinct possibility of a victory of the left, thanks to their votes.

The Communists, who have been acting increasingly as objective allies of the Government, might then split the Socialist vote by proposing a formal alliance which would frighten off the Gaullists. If everything turns on a very narrow margin as in 1974, a small shift of Gaullist or the left or Socialists to the right could well tip the scales.

## Danish Queen ill

Copenhagen, Nov 22—Queen Margrethe of Denmark is to enter Copenhagen University Hospital on Tuesday for a minor gynaecological operation, court sources said. She is expected to stay in hospital for a week.

## Khomeini envoys hold talks with Kurds on autonomy

Mahabad, Iran, Nov 22—Representatives of Ayatollah Khomeini are holding talks with Iranian Kurds today about their demands for autonomy within Iran.

A three-man mission last night met members of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, long banned under the Shah and still not officially recognized although it operates openly.

The party is the hub of the Iranian Kurds' political movement and controls the Pesh Merga guerrillas who are in military command of most Kurdish towns in western Iran. The delegation is composed of Mr Darioush Forhad, a state minister, Ayatollah Shohabi and Mr Hashem Abaghiyan, former Minister of the Interior was expected to meet Shakhzadeh Hossain, the Kurdish spiritual leader, later today or tomorrow at a secret location outside Mahabad.

Kurdish leaders told reporters today that they did not get final acceptance of their autonomy demand in writing during the talks, they would no longer observe a ceasefire in the region until the first visit to Kurdistan earlier this month.

They had received with "reserved optimism" a message to the Kurds last week by

Ayatollah Khomeini who said that their demands had been accepted. It was not specific, however, on the crucial question of how to define autonomy.

For the Kurds, who say they number six million in Iran, autonomy means the right to elect their own government, to have their own police, monetary policy and long-term economic projects.

They want to remain part of Iran and, apart from a constitutional right to self-rule, forth across the borders with Iraq and Turkey to buy and sell arms and food, have few political links with the other parts of the country, except the Soviet Union, Syria and Lebanon.

Kurdish guerrillas control most towns in the four provinces inhabited by Kurds. In Mahabad the guerrillas have been carrying out a "self-rule" through the busy streets carrying Soviet-made Kalashnikov assault rifles, or army-issue G3s, hand grenades, pistols, daggers, and machine guns.

The army and Revolutionary Guards say they in their barracks on the edge of the town. Unarmed off-duty soldiers walk in small groups through the centre of the town with no apparent hostility towards them. But there is no sign of the Revolutionary Guards, whom the Kurds accuse of being the recent disorders.—Reuters.

## Arabs denounce attack on great mosque

Tunis, Nov 22—the attack by armed zealots on the Great Mosque in Mecca was denounced by delegations attending the Arab League summit in Tunis today.

The Arab League summit was opened today by President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia, in a message to King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, praised the firm and energetic action of the Saudi ruler in the face of the "deplorable events" in the Mosque.

There were also expressions of support for Saudi Arabia from Ahmed Benoudia, a councillor to the Royal Cabinet of King Hassan of Morocco and the North Yemen delegation.

Reporters covering the summit were told by Mahmoud Labadi, a spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) that hostages held by Muslim students at the American Embassy in Tehran would be freed if the United States left the United States.

## US ex-senator invited to visit Tehran

From Our Correspondent  
Amsterdam, Nov 22

Mr James Abourezk, a former United States Democratic senator whose law firm acts as legal adviser to the Iranian Embassy in Washington, has been invited to Tehran.

In an interview with a correspondent of Radio Nederland, Mr Abourezk said: "I have been invited as a private citizen to come to Tehran and try to be useful in whatever way I can to ease the psychological climate with respect to the crisis and confrontation between Iran and the United States."

He denied that he was going to Tehran as a legal adviser to the Iranians.

Mr Abourezk, who is of Lebanese descent, said he would be travelling by way of Tunis to consult first with the United States Consul in Tunis, who was attending the Arab League summit, including president.



Mr Sean MacBride: Impressive record as intermediary.

rule. Amnesty was outspoken in its condemnation of torture by Savak, the Shah's secret police. The Iranian authorities can therefore scarcely claim that Mr MacBride represents the American Government. Indeed, he has had no contact with the United States Administration prior to his arrival here.

Mr MacBride, whose views on press freedom—voiced in his capacity as chairman of the

International Commission for the study of Communication Problems—have earned much condemnation in the West, believes that two possible initiatives by the Americans might open the way to negotiations. He feels that some acknowledgement by the United States of the "atrocities" that took place under the Shah would go a long way towards calming passions in Iran.

He also believes that an appeal by the International Commission of Jurists might persuade the students at the American Embassy to free their hostages.

"I was asked to come here to see what I could do," Mr MacBride said tonight. "Mr MacBride said tonight that he did not come to express any views on the situation. The systematic torture and brutalization carried out by the Shah here was one of our main problems in Amnesty."

The MacBride intervention probably has little chance of immediate success. But the United States is likely to welcome any mediation by an internationally known statesman, however controversial his views may be. According to Unesco, the arrangements for Mr MacBride's mission have been carried out "on a strictly confidential basis."

Iranian assets had caused considerable anxiety in America and Western Europe and could cause new currency problems in the Western world.

Yesterday Tass Reported that the American position had become "more rigid and obstinate" and that the White House was trying to put all the responsibility for the crisis on Iran. It said that President Carter's statement that remedies other than peaceful ones were available to the United States was being interpreted as "a direct threat to use military force against Iran."

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## US families to leave Islamabad embassy

From Hasan Akhta  
Islamabad, Nov 22

About 80 families of American diplomatic officials in Islamabad are leaving by chartered aircraft tomorrow after the violent anti-American demonstrations in Pakistan yesterday. Non-essential staff members of the Embassy are also being taken back to Washington.

Mr Arthur Hummel, the American Ambassador, who has set up his temporary office in the United States aid office, told foreign journalists today that there was no intention of breaking relations with Pakistan because of yesterday's attacks on American missions in Islamabad, Karachi and Lahore.

However, Mr Hummel said that prompt action by Pakistan authorities could have prevented much of the damage to life and property in Islamabad.

The Ambassador confirmed that the bodies of two unidentified Pakistani and Warrant Officer Brian Ellis had been found today in the Embassy buildings. A Marine guard was also killed in the attack by crowds angry at reports of American involvement in the occupation of the Great Mosque in Mecca.

Smoke was still coming from part of the embassy building here today. The American Centre in Rawalpindi and the British Council Library were also the target of arsonists while two schools, including a Roman Catholic institution, were also attacked.

The Pakistan Government today announced that it would strengthen forces protecting all diplomatic missions. President Zia-ul-Haq visited some of the buildings set on fire yesterday.

The Cabinet has also ordered an inquiry into yesterday's incidents to find out if the situation was exploited by "vested interests."

Today the city and the capital were heavily controlled by the troops. Most life was normal but a part of the main shopping area was closed for the second day.

Pakistan radio said that President Carter had expressed appreciation to General Zia by telephone for sending in troops to protect the Americans during the demonstrations.



## OVERSEAS

## Salisbury starts to free prisoners but forbids political activity until expiry of their sentences

From Nicholas Ashford, Salisbury, Nov 22. Bishop Abel Muzorewa's government began releasing political prisoners and detainees today after deciding to free them before the expiry of their sentences. The decision to release political prisoners was announced by Bishop Muzorewa in a press conference today. He said that by the time the releases were complete, there would be only a few political prisoners left in jail apart from those who had been convicted for crimes of violence. Bishop Muzorewa said he had not decided whether to remove the ban on Zanu or Zapu, the two main political parties in Rhodesia, until the release of the prisoners was complete. He said that the release of the prisoners was a necessary step towards the achievement of a peaceful and stable Rhodesia. He said that the release of the prisoners was a necessary step towards the achievement of a peaceful and stable Rhodesia. He said that the release of the prisoners was a necessary step towards the achievement of a peaceful and stable Rhodesia.

how many of these detainees there are, but they are believed to total about 18,000. It is hoped these detainees will be freed if the British Governor repeals the martial law regulations when he takes up office in Salisbury. While the decision to release political prisoners has generally been welcomed by Zimbabwe Rhodesia, some believe the Government has acted primarily to win black support in the election to be held next year. The present Lancaster House peace talks in London have reached a successful conclusion. It is just a vote-counting gimmick, Mr Misa said. Bishop Muzorewa said he had not decided whether to remove the ban on Zanu or Zapu, the two main political parties in Rhodesia, until the release of the prisoners was complete. He said that the release of the prisoners was a necessary step towards the achievement of a peaceful and stable Rhodesia. He said that the release of the prisoners was a necessary step towards the achievement of a peaceful and stable Rhodesia.



Bishop Muzorewa: Undecided on whether to legalize Mugabe and Nkomo parties.

## Lee demand for sanctions against Vietnamese

From Peter Hazlehurst, Singapore, Nov 22. Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister of Singapore, today called on Western Europe, Japan and the United States to impose economic sanctions against Vietnam until Hanoi withdraws its armed forces from Kampuchea. He said that the fighting along the border of Kampuchea had developed into the greatest threat to the stability of the non-communist Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) since its inception. Mr Lee also called on the United Nations to send more observers to the Thai frontier. He said that the conflict between the Khmer Rouge and Vietnamese troops near the border of Thailand could endanger the stability of the Asean state. He said that the conflict between the Khmer Rouge and Vietnamese troops near the border of Thailand could endanger the stability of the Asean state. He said that the conflict between the Khmer Rouge and Vietnamese troops near the border of Thailand could endanger the stability of the Asean state.



Thousands of Kampuchean refugees head for lorries and buses waiting to take them to a new refugee camp in Thailand eight miles from the frontier. It will take up to 200,000 people.

"Vietnam is politically isolated and economically deprived. She needs trade and economic cooperation with the Western industrial nations and with her neighbours in South-East Asia to repair the ravages of war and to build a better life for her people. She must, however, first observe the minimum decencies of civilized conduct between peaceful nations." Mr Lee pointed out that the presence of United Nations observers on the Thai frontier can inhibit Vietnamese violations of Thai territory. "They would bear witness to Vietnam's extension of war into Thailand." Mr Lee claimed that the conflict in Kampuchea is essentially part of the Soviet Union's attempts to extend its influence in South-East Asia. He said that the conflict in Kampuchea is essentially part of the Soviet Union's attempts to extend its influence in South-East Asia. He said that the conflict in Kampuchea is essentially part of the Soviet Union's attempts to extend its influence in South-East Asia.

"In Vietnam's ambitions in Kampuchea, and in her inevitable conflict with China, the Soviet Union grasped the opportunity to extend her influence into Vietnam which can help project her military capacity into South-East Asia. The price is military hardware and political support. India's support for Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea is not adding lustre to India's stature as a principled non-aligned leader of the third world. But, whatever her reasons, India's support for Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea is not adding lustre to India's stature as a principled non-aligned leader of the third world. But, whatever her reasons, India's support for Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea is not adding lustre to India's stature as a principled non-aligned leader of the third world.

When China took it upon herself to punish Vietnam by invading her last February, India interpreted the invasion in the light of her experience when Chinese troops crossed the Himalayas into India. But, whatever her reasons, India's support for Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea is not adding lustre to India's stature as a principled non-aligned leader of the third world. But, whatever her reasons, India's support for Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea is not adding lustre to India's stature as a principled non-aligned leader of the third world. But, whatever her reasons, India's support for Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea is not adding lustre to India's stature as a principled non-aligned leader of the third world.

## Ceausescu cult reaches new heights

From csa Trevisan, Bucharest Nov 22. The first message to emerge from the Romanian Party Congress is that Romania is as resolute as ever to guard its independence and to extend it by keeping an active foreign policy, clearly distinguishable and often in outright disagreement with the Warsaw Pact line. The second message is that high-pressure industrialization will be pursued regardless of the energy crisis and strains strains and stresses in the international economic scene. This means rapid economic growth, high industrial investment at the expense of the consumer, tight discipline, tight police controls. The third message is that President Ceausescu is an absolute ruler, the personification of the country, the nation and its party. Romania is deemed to owe everything to him, the cult has risen to great heights. There is nothing new in that, except that this point is now being driven home even more forcefully, that the tributes are more lavish and elaborate, and that the omissions are more frenzied, and that all this makes this congress more than ever a one-man show. Demands for his reelection to the post of general secretary which every speaker reiterated as if there was the slightest doubt who was likely to get the job, brought the audience of almost 3,000 faithful into a frenzy that no living leader, with the possible exception of Kim Il Sung, of North Korea, can match. The show might have been boring and most of the audience might have had difficulties in keeping awake, but the never missed their cue to cheer the man who was running it. The portraits adorning public buildings look rather modest, and, in keeping with the economy drive, may have been cut down in numbers and size, the image of Mr Ceausescu emerging from the congress looks king-size. The cult of personality has obviously gathered new momentum from the congress. What it might lead to remains to be seen, but before embarking on the next five-year stage, it was obviously necessary to demonstrate it beyond doubt. The ambitious targets this congress is about to launch call for a thorough reorganization. It is being suggested that Ceausescu's wife, Elena, the formidable power behind the Romanian politics, might rise still higher in the party hierarchy. The assumption is that she may provide that trustworthy partner President Ceausescu needs. One suggestion is that the post of deputy to the general secretary might be created for her. Another is for her to be made party secretary in charge of the cadres. Of the two, the latter seems more plausible, especially as the permanent bureau which now has 11 members, and of the executive bureau, with 41, is to be increased. In order to turn Romania into an industrially advanced country, heavy industry is to be reorganized from top to bottom. Net industrial production is to rise at an annual rate of 9 per cent to 10 per cent, agricultural production by more than 4 per cent, and investment by more than 5 per cent by 1985, according to this programme, Romania is to become a medium-advanced industrial power. Any real improvement in the living standards is to come after that. For the 22 million Romanians this means more sweat and not much else. Moreover Romania has worked out a comprehensive 10-year energy programme designed to make it self-sufficient. This calls for enormous additional investment into energy resources, and means that the promise, a heavy-weight, is in fact to be postponed until then. Let off lightly. Johannesburg, Nov 22.—A former boxer who forgot to appear in court on a speeding charge got off with a light fine today when the magistrate agreed that punches on the head might have damaged the man's memory. Mike "The Tank" Schutte, a heavy-weight, was fined 20 rand (\$24) for contempt of court. The magistrate said the fine would usually have been bigger.

## British flag pulled down by Lusaka protesters

Lusaka, Nov 22.—More than 50 people demonstrated outside the British High Commission in Lusaka today in support of President Kaunda's decision to mobilize his armed forces to end the Rhodesian attacks in Zimbabwe Rhodesia. About 50 demonstrators stood the flag inside the High Commission and lowered it to the ground. The demonstrators left after about an hour. President Kaunda has been piling up anti-British feeling saying he held Britain responsible for Zimbabwe Rhodesia's raids into Zambia over the year. Zambian police on duty inside and outside the High Commission grounds kept the riot under control and no weapons were seized. President Kaunda told about 5,000 people gathered at State House today that he expected no improvement in Zimbabwe Rhodesia's behaviour until the Zimbabwe Rhodesia issue had been settled. Referring to the recent attacks on Zambian bridges, the President asked whether the crowd could accept that the raids were made without the knowledge of the British Government. He was answered by a roared "No". The President also attacked Sir Leonard Allison, the British High Commissioner to Zambia, for saying that the British Government was not responsible for the Zimbabwe Rhodesian raids and would therefore not compensate Zambia for its losses, as Dr Kaunda has demanded. He rejected calls from militants to nationalize Shell-BP Zambia and Lombe, saying that there was no point in nationalizing such companies until Zambia had people trained to run them.

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## Australians to speed up end of sanctions

Canberra, Nov 22.—Australia and New Zealand will trade sanctions against Zimbabwe Rhodesia without waiting for action in the United Nations, in the event of a settlement at the London talks, the two countries announced today. Mr Andrew Peacock, the Foreign Minister, said Australia would lift sanctions as soon as the peace talks reached agreement. It would also send 135 men to join a Commonwealth force monitoring the ceasefire during the planned transitional period leading up to elections. In Wellington, Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, said New Zealand would lift sanctions when Britain did. Commenting on the Australia-New Zealand agreement, Mr Muldoon said that if agreement was reached at the London talks Britain would appoint a governor in the breakaway colony, provided that it had renounced its legality and end sanctions. New Zealand would follow suit.

## Chemical warfare used on Kampuchean, Thais say

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok, Nov 22. The International Committee of the Red Cross in Bangkok is trying to identify a powder which caused illness among Kampuchean refugees. The powder was dropped by an unidentified helicopter earlier this month. The Thai supreme command said today that 70 refugees had become ill with vomiting and diarrhoea after drinking water, contaminated by the powder, from a stream at Ban Laem 200 miles east of Bangkok. The stream marks the Thai-Kampuchean border. While Thai officials declined publicly to name those responsible, military officers described the incident as a deliberate act of chemical warfare by the Vietnamese whose forces are just across the border from Ban Laem. Dr Theounn Thionun, who was health minister in the ousted Pol Pot government, said during an interview inside Kampuchea last month that Vietnamese aircraft had repeatedly dropped arsenic in Khmer Rouge war supplies in western Kampuchea. The doctor said the Vietnamese had also dropped a poison gas which he had not been able to identify. People inhaling it died unless given immediate injections of atropine or ammonia. Laosans have reported Vietnamese gas attacks over the past two years and claimed some of their people had been killed. A French doctor in northern Thailand, who examined Laosans affected by the gas said it resembled poison gas used in Flanders during the First World War. Eight executions in the Vietnamese backed administration in Phnom Penh said today it had discovered documents showing that the ousted Pol Pot regime had executed two Australian and six American airmen arrested off the Kampuchean coast.

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## Mr Murdoch withdraws bid for newspapers

From Douglas Dixon, Melbourne, Nov 22. Rupert Murdoch has abandoned his bid to gain control of Herald and Weekly Times Ltd, the Melbourne-based paper organization in the fern hemisphere. He announced in Sydney that his group, News Ltd, sold all its shares in Herald and Weekly Times, and his takeover bid was over. We sold all the shares for £2.90. There were 20,000 of them, Mr Murdoch said. The parcel had realized about 9.3m (£10.2m). An announcement was that as in an intense day on the trading floor of the Melbourne Stock Exchange, old shares opened at \$45, at up to \$45.52, and then fell back to \$42.75. By the close \$42.248 Herald shares Murdoch had bought from Sydney two million were traded. Notification of Mr Murdoch's withdrawal came to the Melbourne Stock Exchange from News Ltd in the form of a copy of a telex message to the Trade Practices Commission, a Government body that had warned Mr Murdoch not to buy Herald shares for at least a month. Mr Murdoch said later: "We're disappointed, but no responsible officer of a public company could pay these prices." Asked whether his bid to take over the Herald group was finished to fall, Mr Murdoch said, "I can't answer that." He then confirmed that he was considering starting an afternoon newspaper in Melbourne.

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## Fifth Cruise missile crashes

Salt Lake City, Utah, Nov 22.—A Cruise missile crashed into the Utah desert during a test flight last night, a United States Defence Department spokesman said. Five of 11 Cruise missiles tested have crashed since the programme began in July but this is not an abnormal crash rate, the spokesman said. The article went on to say: "That is the trouble with our card yesterday's principles for today's opportunities." In the large shareholders in the production of the Herald, Mr Murdoch has eight or nine major daily newspapers. I wouldn't be able to buy another successful paper there. The Monopolies Commission would say no. That's quite correct and proper. The article concluded: "You know, the man does talk a lot of sense. Sometimes." Had Mr Murdoch bought half the Herald shares, it appears that the Trade Practices Commission would have taken him to court for contravening the Trade Practices Act.

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## Press controls held in Thailand

Our Correspondent Bangkok, Nov 22. Attempts by MPs to give a freedom of Thai news failed yesterday. A parliamentary committee rejected two Bills that would have ended Government attempts to close newspapers speaking about freedom of press to the Press Foundation of Asia yesterday. General Chuan Leekpai, the Minister, said: "My government has tried as best as it can to maintain a proper balance between several values—freedom, stability, national security, freedom of speech and publication and the well-being." Andean press prizes. Quito, Nov 22.—Three Andean journalists won the 1979 Andean Press Prize for their reporting on the situation in the Andes. The prizes were awarded by the Andean Press Foundation.

## Seoul opposition demands new constitution

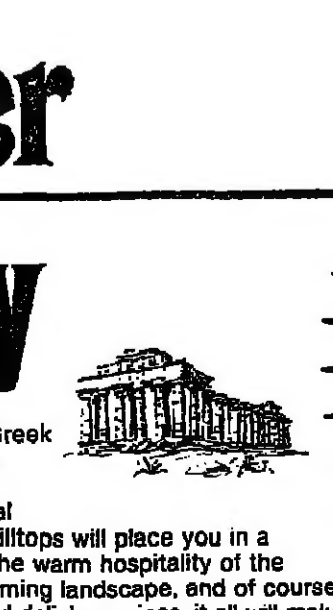
Seoul, Nov 22.—South Korea's main opposition party threatened today to campaign against an early next month unless the Government agrees to revise the constitution. Mr Kim Young Sam, head of the New Democratic Party, accused Mr Choi Kyu Hah, the Acting President, of "forcing obedience from the people under the pretext of assuring stability." Mr Choi, the Prime Minister, became Acting President after the assassination of Park Chung Hee last month, under the rigorous 1972 constitution which abolished a popular vote for electing presidents. Mr Kim said a press conference that a new organization should be set up to revise the constitution. He said it should include political, religious, and social groups as well as two representatives from each of the four major political parties.



# Forget Winter Come to Sicily

Our friendly sunny island in the Mediterranean is just the ideal place to give yourself a break from winter: its mild spring climate, hotels which are not overcrowded and prices attractively low are only a few of the many advantages Sicily offers in winter. A flight of only a few hours brings you to Palermo, Catania or Trapani. From here you continue best by hired car (Avis, Hertz, Europcar) or by touring bus. Highways totalling 450 miles (of which 300 toll-free) and good roads connect the most interesting beautypots on the island: Palermo, Segesta, Selinunte, Agrigento, Taormina, Catania. Unique museums, Greek theatres, Byzantine mosaics, Arab-Norman cathedrals, baroque churches and typical white villages clustered on hilltops will place you in a different fascinating world. The warm hospitality of the Sicilians, the overwhelming landscape, and of course the savoury kitchen and delicious wines. It all will make you happy you came to Sicily.

For programs contact travel agents and ALITALIA. General information: Italian State Tourist Office (ENIT), London.









## ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area.

## OPERA AND BALLET

**JOINT GARDEN** 01-240 1088  
Gardens, 10.30. The Royal Ballet  
The Royal Ballet  
The Royal Ballet  
The Royal Ballet

**ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA**  
10.30. The English National Opera  
The English National Opera  
The English National Opera  
The English National Opera

**SCOTTISH OPERA**  
10.30. The Scottish Opera  
The Scottish Opera  
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**LONDON CONTEMPORARY**  
10.30. The London Contemporary  
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**THEATRE**  
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**DELPHI**  
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**THE WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL**  
10.30. The World's Greatest Musical  
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**OLIVER!**  
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**MEASURE FOR MEASURE**  
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## THEATRES

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## THE ARTS

## The Vienna connexion

Letter from an  
Unknown Woman (A)  
Camden Plaza

A Little Romance (A)  
Warner West End;  
ABC, Shaftesbury  
Avenue

Martin (X)  
Cinecenta; Screen on  
the Green

The Jericho Mile (AA)  
ABC, Shaftesbury  
Avenue; Classic,  
Haymarket; Studio,  
Oxford Street; Scene,  
Leicester Square

Yesterday's Hero (A)  
Empire

Beneath the Valley of  
the Ultravixens (X)  
Eros

The return of Max Ophüls's  
Letter from an Unknown  
Woman thirty years after it was  
made would be putting the  
opposition to the test in any  
week, but this week, as it  
happens, there is barely any  
competition.

Ophüls adapted the film in  
Hollywood from the period  
novel by Stefan Zweig.  
Louis Jourdan was borrowed  
from David O. Selznick to play  
Stefan Brand, a playboy con-  
cert pianist who returns home  
to pack his suitcase and thus  
avoid a duel with another angry  
husband ("Honour is a luxury  
only a gentleman can afford").  
Then his manservant, both  
dumb and self-knowing, hands  
him a letter. It begins: "By  
the time you read this letter, I  
may be dead..." And the film  
continues, by a series of  
extended flashbacks, to tell the  
story of the girl who fell in  
love with him.

Joan Fontaine gave to the  
part of Lisa Berendt her pecu-  
liar qualities of frail, hesitant

attractiveness and the look of  
silent martyrdom of a lover in  
vein. The plot takes her from  
being a child to womanhood,  
from innocent infatuation to  
dignified resignation, yet  
neither she nor Jourdan  
appear to age by a day. It is,  
on the face of it, an ordinary  
Forties romance.

But Ophüls made it much  
more than that. As *Lois  
Montes and Madame De* (also  
revived recently by the  
Camden Plaza) it holds up as  
an example of a woman who  
is seen to determine her own fate,  
taking the lead in affairs of the  
heart and body. Lisa reverses  
the traditional roles of seduc-  
tion and, although she is left  
hurt by the end, it is Stefan  
who has been used. She has  
been both predator and victim.

Ophüls clothes his moral tale  
in rich opulence of the  
opera house, fashionable res-  
taurants and cluttered drawing  
rooms of Vienna, his nominal  
home city. Whether it is rug-  
bying in a gentlemen's club,  
the courtyard filled with servants  
dust and scampering children,  
or the bourgeoisie out for  
their Sunday stroll, the camera  
weaves in and around these  
illuminations of the spectacle  
of the whole while eavesdropping  
on a more intimate scene to  
hear a snatch of conversation.

The fairground and the  
carnival were always favourite  
places for Ophüls to plant his  
intricate metaphors, and here  
the Viennese fairground is put  
to work. He reveals in a still-  
holder kneeling down on a  
bench and a train ride with  
revolving scenery turned by an  
old man peddling busily on a  
stationary bicycle.

The heroine of *A Little  
Romance* is also 15 when she  
falls in love with the idea of  
falling in love. But there  
the comparison ends. Her  
lover is a French boy a little  
younger than herself and she  
is an American in Paris.  
Diane Lane and Theodor  
Bernard kiss and cuddle under  
the nose of Laurence Olivier,  
who plays a glib, pocket-  
pulling self-parody.  
The *Jericho Mile* is the  
latest fashion in Hollywood  
and they usually take place, as  
here, under the noses of  
career-minded parents and  
their marriage problems. *A  
Little Romance* has all the  
symptoms of an idea which  
worked well on paper, which  
explains, perhaps, why it  
doesn't make much sense on

the screen. The children were  
to be philosophy-swapping  
prodigies who elope to Venice via  
Verona, so that the inevitable  
comparisons to Romeo and  
Juliet can be made. That is a  
brilliant child actors, which  
Lane and Bernard are not.

The rest of the plotline  
reels similarly of a commercial  
team planning a major assault  
on the market. *Force* is piled  
upon farce and each additional  
gimmick overburdens the  
director, George Roy Hill. His  
film ill compares with another  
recent venture on the same  
theme, Robert M. Young's  
charming, intelligent *Rich  
Kid*.

While horror movies are  
almost extinct this year has  
seen a patient reworking of  
the vampire myth. Both  
Werner Herzog, in his pon-  
derous *Nostradamus*, and Stan  
Dragoti, in his patchy comedy  
*Love or First Bite*, encouraged  
Count Dracula to leave Trans-  
ylvania and terrorize more  
civilized parts. In George A.  
Romero's *Martin* he has  
reached of all places, Pitts-  
burgh and bides in the body of  
an ordinary American boy. His  
grandfather knows his strange  
appetites, however, and will  
tolerate him only as long as he  
stays outside the city for his  
victims.

Romero makes some nice  
twists to the usual story. *Martin*,  
played with toothy creepi-  
ness by John Amos, has  
abandoned traditional blood  
sucking for a hypodermic of  
anaesthetic to put his victims  
out for the count, then he  
takes to their wrist with a razor  
blade. He is immune to garlic  
and the sign of the cross, dis-  
missing them as witchcraft,  
and makes his confession by  
phone-in to a radio station.  
By the end we are left unde-  
cided as to whether *Martin*  
really is a vampire or simply  
a deviant murderer.

Convicts and free thinkers in  
authoritarian countries often  
subvert their hatred of their  
incarceration by burying them-  
selves in hobbies, the arts or  
sport. In *The Jericho Mile*  
Peter Strauss plays an inmate  
of Folsom Prison who isolates  
himself from the other pri-  
soners and concentrates on im-  
proving his performance at  
running a rough mile course  
marked out by dustbins. The  
prison authorities realize that  
they have a potential Olympic  
champion on their hands and



Love from afar—Joan Fontaine

give him encouragement which  
he grudgingly accepts.

It is ground which has been  
covered before and better by  
Tory Richardson in *The Long  
Distance Runner* and the director,  
Michael Mann, cannot help  
expanding his story into a  
study of the internal politics of  
the prison to the detriment of  
the personal drama of an indi-  
vidual coming to terms with  
life imprisonment. And much  
of the power of the film is  
diffused by the reliance upon  
the sub.

The pessimistic ending to  
*The Jericho Mile* is just as  
inevitable as the laughably  
optimistic ending to *Yester-  
day's Hero*, written by Jackie  
Collins and directed by Neil  
Leifer, which combines the  
mock-glamorous worlds of  
soccer and pop music. A mil-

lionaire singer (Paul Nicholas)  
buys up a football team and  
recruits a childhood hero (Ian  
McShane), now a drunk,  
despite the opposition of his  
manager (Adam Faith).

It is even more difficult to  
appreciate Russ Meyer's  
*Beneath the Valley of the  
Ultravixens* on the level that  
was intended. It is meant to be  
a satire on the wealth of pas-  
sion lying dormant beneath the  
surface of every American  
small town. But, apart from an  
amazing up-and-atom commen-  
tary, it quickly becomes a bar-  
ing parade of simulated sex  
dominated by pneumatic  
women.

Nicholas Wapshott

David Robinson will resume  
his Friday film column next  
week.

## Television

Instant Enlightenment  
Plus VAT  
BBC 1

Fay Weldon

Television drama is at its best,  
it seems to me, when it pulls  
more nuggets of goodness  
out of the contemporary  
scene, refining them through  
the traditional crafts of writer,  
director and actor and offer-  
ing them to a public who  
otherwise would have very lit-  
tle notion of what was going  
on under its own nose. Max  
the oracle—a part and a perfor-  
mance, I imagine, of a  
lifetime—was so convincing,  
the blend of truth and lies so  
powerful, that I all but fell for  
it myself.

The sweet familiar ironed-out  
dangerousness of Deborah Nor-  
ton's Viv and Diane Ward's  
agonized nymphomaniac were  
beautiful performances. A painful, powerful, necessary  
play.

A pity that *Play for Today*  
is going out so late and with-  
out a recognizable time. We  
are an increasingly tough  
audience living in an increas-  
ingly tough world. But we do  
not need to be protected from  
our society, or its common lan-  
guage, as reflected with in-  
creasing power and accuracy  
by television. We need to face  
them.

Premiere  
BBC 2

Michael Ratcliffe

The forest was otherwise quiet  
as the small SS unit drove  
steadily up the road. The  
Americans had prepared a text-  
book ambush but just as they  
raised their guns in readiness  
to fire, the silence was shat-  
tered by a trumpeting burst of  
fire from the tanks for this  
was not the US Army at all,  
but a detachment of Second  
World War buffs from Lancas-  
hire, and the Krauts coming  
from the hill were from Kent.  
The Lake District made do for  
the Ardennes and the ammu-  
nition was blank, but in all  
other respects the manoeuvres  
were conducted with scholarly  
exactitude. "It's historical",  
Tad and Hiseman explained to  
the speed cops after they had  
ripped their jeep off the road

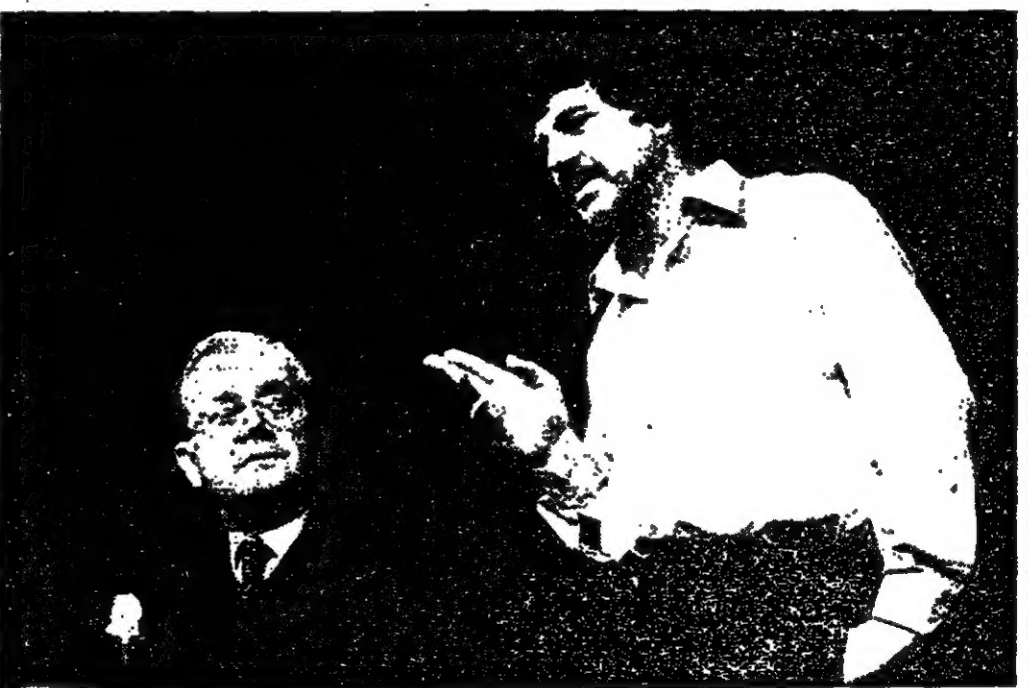
and over the fells, "same as if  
it was Sealed Knot".  
Parkas and battery razors were  
not allowed.

Premiere — new 35-minute  
plays with which editors,  
writers and producers have  
given the chance to direct on  
television for the first time—  
has proved a valuable, and pro-  
ductive slot. The length de-  
mands that craftsmanship is  
learned first, that narrative stick-  
to the point, and that the mood  
is established at once, and held.

Perhaps because he himself  
directed a documentary about  
the United States Army Vehicle  
Club of Blackburn three years  
ago, Brian Thompson's *Over  
There*, which opened the third  
Premiere series, was more suc-  
cessful with mood and detail  
than any other. It was a  
great deal of stalking and talk-  
ing before the discovery of two  
real German girls camping  
beside a lake gave rise to  
pathetic bullying and disorderly  
shots that blinded Tad, har-  
good, with their blast. Nothing  
was made of the Kentish krauts  
at all.

It was not much of a story,  
in fact, and the contradictions  
between fact and fantasy, be-  
tween the real tedium of every-  
day life and the simulated ten-  
sion of weekend games, could  
not be explored with much  
originality in the time. The  
dialogue, however, shifting  
easily between, as it were,  
Guadalcanal bravado and dem-  
otic Lancastrian, was often very  
funny, and the director, Chris  
Loverett—editor of, among other  
fine things, *She Fell Among  
Thieves* and *Spent*, *Spent*,  
*Spent*—photographed John  
Curless, Roderick Smith, and  
the rest of a likeable cast with  
sympathy and skill. The result  
was sketchy, but undeniably  
touching.

Some of the reviews on this  
page are reprinted from  
yesterday's later editions.



Nigel Stock (left) and Alan Bates

Photograph by Donald Cooper

Stage Struck  
Vaudeville

Irving Wardle

For anyone who may have  
thought that jobbed theatrical  
thrillers had reached their  
death-rattle with Anthony  
Shaffer, here is a splendid new  
entry from Simon Gray to  
demonstrate yet again that it is  
writers rather than styles that  
get worn out.

As usual, with such claims,  
I shall have to ask you to take  
my word for it. Taking the  
latter view of *Stage Struck*,  
you could argue that the rage  
and hatred that breaks through  
so much of Mr Gray's work,  
plus his allegiance to literate  
middle-class characters in well-  
upholstered surroundings,  
marks him out as a natural  
thriller writer.

But this line of argument cuts  
little ice when you come down  
to such details about the play  
as can be unveiled: namely that  
it features an ailing theatrical  
marriage in a half-timbered  
Kentish retreat, and centres on  
the megalomaniac actress wife's  
calculated attempt to boot out her  
professionally unsuccessful hus-

band. There is even a student  
(Australian, to make the hack-  
les rise) occupying a cottage  
down the garden, and an en-  
igmatic analyst to reinforce the  
plotting once the intrigue is  
under way. It sounds, and it is,  
as stereotyped as any such  
entertainment could be; and its  
quality resides in the new  
haunches Mr Gray conjures out  
of these old marionettes.

This must be the first thriller  
in which a character has phoned  
the police and announced, with  
perfect truth: "This is the de-  
ceased speaking". Or, for that  
matter, greeted a guest by re-  
flecting a changed body from the  
files and remarking: "So I  
can't rouse your interest in my  
situation?"

The speaker on both occasions  
is Alan Bates, as the  
home-loving husband who turns  
nasty when his pleasant dinner  
is spurned. More to the point,  
he is also a stage manager, who  
brings the hard-earned skills of  
Worthington up to bear on the  
act of domestic vengeance in  
which he will enjoy the fastest  
of parts, in addition to his  
usual role of corpse behind the  
sofa.

The part is a worthy sequel  
to the previous Bates-Gray cre-  
ations of Butley and Simon  
Hench. Courteous and friendly  
at first sight, it is mined with

poisonously unforgiving little  
verbal twists from which the  
character takes shape as a  
sturdy antagonist, impenetrable  
alike by his stage adversaries  
and by the spectator. Much as  
I have enjoyed this run of  
graduate sharpshooters, their  
speech often suggests the kind  
of crushing, joyous, or  
thanks up after the enemy has  
gone.

And it is precisely this point  
on which Mr Gray capitalizes in  
the part of Robert who not only  
stage manages the blank car-  
tridges, the frothing blood cap-  
sules, and the Grand Guignol







## SPORT

## Racing

## Dramatist holds the best credentials on experience and form

By Michael Phillips  
Racing Correspondent

With both Beacon Light and Dramatist standing their ground overnight, the Oxfordshire Steeplechase promises to be a highly interesting race at Newbury today.

The two principal contestants were of much the same ability when they raced over hurdles. They can both claim to have beaten each other three times in the past and also to have finished third in the Champion Hurdle. So what will happen in this, their first encounter over fences is anyone's guess.

My feeling is that Dramatist may just have the edge. Beacon Light made a satisfactory start in his chasing career at Wincanton eight days ago when he outpaced Royal Charley who underlined the merit of that performance by winning at Kempton yesterday.

But Dramatist has accumulated much more experience at steeplechasing and could easily win the scales his way especially at Newbury where he has won three times at today's course and distance. Equally important is the fact that he also finished second in the National Hunt two-mile handicap Steeplechase at Cheltenham, which was a laudable effort for a beginner.

Dramatist's particularly good form five days ago when he won his first race of the season, he was absolutely perfect all the way and it was surprising to his rivals of old. Tragus, Gendy does it and Commander General complements the field. Tragus made an encouraging start to his steeplechasing career this season at he has not run this autumn.

That could count against him, for he is a specialist two and a half mile runner. Beacon Light, furthermore, he would probably prefer softer ground. But he does it and he has beaten Royal Charley and Stratford earlier in the season and he has won the Bournemouth Steeplechase at the time he is out of contention. Commander General has never run in this country.

## Newbury programme

FRESHMANS HURDLE (Div 1: Novices: 3-y-o: £799: 2m 100yd)

370 Desert Command, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
371 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
372 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
373 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
374 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
375 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
376 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
377 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
378 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
379 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4  
380 Larkspur, P. Hannon, 11-7, R. Cochrane 4

CLANFIELD CHASE (Handicap: £1,390: 3m)

100-200 Mrs. Stephens, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
100-200 Mrs. Stephens, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
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100-200 Mrs. Stephens, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll

JACKY LITTON CHASE (Handicap: £2,054: 2m)

11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
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11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll

OXFORDSHIRE CHASE (Handicap: £1,500: 2m 100yd)

11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
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11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
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11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll

ROUND OAK HURDLE (Handicap: £1,641: 2m 100yd)

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FRESHMANS HURDLE (Div 2: Novices: 3-y-o: £812: 2m 100yd)

11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
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11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll  
11-12-13 The Duke, 11-12-13, R. Lewis, 9-11-10, P. Carroll

ewbury selections

Our Racing Correspondent  
North Yard, 1.30 Mr. Stephens, 2.0 THE SNIFE is specially  
commended, 2.30 Dramatist, 3.0 Prince of Pleasure, 3.30 Pigs  
lone.

ewbury selections

Our Racing Correspondent  
North Yard, 1.30 Mr. Stephens, 2.0 THE SNIFE is specially  
commended, 2.30 Dramatist, 3.0 Prince of Pleasure, 3.30 Pigs  
lone.

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commended, 2.30 Dramatist, 3.0 Prince of Pleasure, 3.30 Pigs  
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ewbury selections

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## Weight should not worry Rathgorman

By Michael Seely

The big names in steeplechasing will soon be swinging into action. Next week Tony Richardson will be running both his potential Cheltenham Gold Cup candidates, Gay Sparman and Silver Buck, Gay Sparman, a short-priced favourite for last March's race, will be showing his form in the Sunningdale Handicap Steeplechase at Ascot.

Gay Sparman has not yet been seen on this season, but Silver Buck, who will be taking on the Hammer Memorial Steeplechase at Haydock Park the following afternoon, has already shown his well-being with a victory at Wincanton and Hereford.

A month is a long time to look ahead in the winter game. But all going well the Richardson could have two strings to his bow for the King George VI Steeplechase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. Last year's winner, Gay Sparman, would be the favourite if he is fit to go.

The family are launching a raid on the Lincolnshire course at Easingwold on December 12. Obviously their outstanding chance is held by Rathgorman, who has won the Lincolnshire Handicap Steeplechase at Easingwold in his recent wins at Windsor and Stamford-on-Avon. His weight of 12st 7lb should not prevent the seven-year-old making it three wins in a row.

Dickinson's other runners are Privy Council, who has won the field in the Hare-Care Long Distance Novices Hurdle, and Bannow Breeze, who has won the field in the Hare-Care Long Distance Novices Hurdle.

Although Privy Council will be suited by every yard of today's three miles, he may have his work cut out in trying to give a stone 20 Bannow Breeze with two novice hurdles in fine style last spring and is sure to have been well schooled at Hereford.

The Aga Khan and Yves Saint-Martin will continue their association during 1980. Last Monday, Saint-Martin's victory in the Aga Khan's Shamshara, earlier this month, the 35-year-old former French champion, took his career total to 2,500.

With a few flat meetings left to run, it is almost sure that the Aga Khan will be the leading owner in the world. His stable has so far won 91 races and there total winnings are around £550,000. A good number of this sum was won by Top Ville.

## Market Rasen programme

12.45 WHITE SWAN HURDLE (ES37: 2m)

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1.15 ASTON ARMS STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £916: 2m)

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1.45 GORDON ARMS HURDLE (Handicap: £906: 2m)

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2.15 LINGSTONE EDWARD STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £2,345: 3m)

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2.45 HARE-CARE LONG HURDLE (Handicap: £853: 3m)

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3.15 WHITE HART STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £1,007: 2m)

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## FOREIGN REPORT

France's high pastures

## Worst days are over for the Larzac sheep farmers

The first snows of winter are dusting the rocky hills in the highlands of south-western France. Around Rodez and Millau, built at Larzac, the only such school built in rural France for a very long time. Milk production has risen by 42 per cent and land under cultivation has been increased by 29 per cent. Two farms have had water supplies laid on eight miles of roads have been repaired and surfaced, farmhouses have been restored, 17 new sheepfolds and granges have been built and a telephone link has been installed between 25 farms.

These are France's main sheep ranges, where the high pastures flourish. The sheep that produce Roquefort cheese, fine leather and the best piglets the country has to offer. But caring for the sheep is a tough life, which has taught the local people to fight not only the elements but, if necessary, the inevitable.

Thus, the biggest demonstrations against the importing of lamb and mutton from Britain have taken place there. And thus too, a small group from the nearby plain of Larzac has mounted an awkward and so far successful campaign.

The 250,000 acres of Larzac are, in winter, one of the most inhospitable places in France, with cold winds sweeping across the high rocky land. Even hardy breeds of sheep do not provide enough for anything but a hard living and at the turn of the century some landholders were glad to sell about 7,500 acres to the French Army for a training ground and shooting range.

The camp brought a certain amount of prosperity to the area, but sheep farming continued to be a difficult way of life. Several other farmers tried to sell their land to the army and over the years the young have left the area in droves.

In 1970 the local Gaullist deputy, M. Louis-Alexis Delmas, asked his friend, M. Michel Debré, then Defence Minister, to enlarge the camp in the hope that it would stimulate the local economy. M. Debré, knowing the army desperately needed an enlarged camp for tank manoeuvres and artillery practice, jumped at the idea.

But neither the deputy nor the minister seemed to realize that the worst days were over for the Larzac sheep farmers. Prices were rising for their products and a new generation had taken over the land from tired fathers.

The new generation was able to buy equipment to clear the rocks and increase the size of the pastures. New sheep produced three times the amount of milk available for Roquefort. Larzac felt itself turning into a model of agricultural progress when, in 1970, it learnt that the state meant to buy 35,000 acres of land to extend the camp.

Spontaneously the farmers formed a defence group and set out to prove that Larzac was more use to France as a

sheep pasture than as a shooting range. In those nine years the population has grown and in 1973 a primary school was built at Larzac, the only such school built in rural France for a very long time. Milk production has risen by 42 per cent and land under cultivation has been increased by 29 per cent. Two farms have had water supplies laid on eight miles of roads have been repaired and surfaced, farmhouses have been restored, 17 new sheepfolds and granges have been built and a telephone link has been installed between 25 farms.

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David Blake, Economics Editor, analyses the fine print of government economic forecasts

# Into the 80s: a long gloomy way before things can get any better

One of the most difficult tasks for a newly-elected government is to convince itself that things are really as bad as they claimed when they were in opposition. An even harder task is to convince everyone else. The latest forecast published by the Treasury on our economic prospects for the next year shows an extreme case of this problem.

One of the complaints which Whitehall officials make with surprising unanimity about the Ministerial team at the Treasury is that they are obsessed with the problems of presentation of announcements on the economic outlook. The fruits of that obsession are revealed in their report on the outlook for the 12 months ahead. Even after being shown up, the picture is an appallingly stark one.

On the Government's published estimates inflation will decline only slightly over the next 12 months, real income will fall and unemployment will rise as output declines. But this estimate is hedged around with conditions. Indeed, the only thing which we are told can be safely assumed from the whole of the Treasury's forecasting exercise is that inflation—though declining—will stay in double figures next year and that there will be some fall in real output.

Economic forecasting techniques, though imperfect, are better than that. At least, they are if they are allowed to be. The problem is that the whole of the forecast next year has been prepared under the terms of the Protection of Official Information Act, which all governments during this decade use as their guide in deciding what to tell the rest of us.

The terms of this are interpreted more or less liberally depending on how bad the reality looks likely to be. Since there is no way of avoiding 1980 being the subject of the gloomiest forecast produced since the War, there is no need to make it worse by assuming the worst. Nor is there thought to be any need to present the figures in a way which might lead to pessimistic conclusions could be drawn, even if they are the logical ones to draw.

Take, for example, the question of how much our national output will fall next year, which the Treasury estimates at 2 per cent. That is an accurate reflection of the forecast as far as it goes, but it is not the one which

emerges if we use the test which the Treasury has used in the past. This is to compare the second half of this year with the second half of next year. If that is done, the fall in output is much sharper. It is 2.7 per cent. This might seem to be just a technical point, but it reveals two important underlying issues.

We are not just facing a slight hiccup... the recession will get steadily worse

The first is that we are not just facing a slight hiccup before the country returns to healthy growth and low inflation. The recession will get steadily worse throughout next year rather than starting to fade away in the autumn. There may be some improvement in 1981, but it will be at best a faltering recovery and at worst not even that. Inflation cannot be reduced at a stroke.

On the Government's forecasts, getting the inflation rate down by just over 3 per cent points over the next year is going to require fiscal and monetary policies of extreme tightness. Getting down the inflation still further in subsequent years will also be a very tough job.

Just how tough a job the Government still seems unwilling to tell us. For every single figure in the forecast seems to have been subjected to intense mauling over the past few weeks to make it look better. Take the inflation forecast for example. The Treasury rightly says that with profits at their present level labour costs are absolutely crucial in determining the rate of inflation. Yet few people would accept the implied assumption that earnings during the current pay round will only grow by about 14 per cent. Most outside forecasters would put the figure considerably higher. Both ministers and the CBI talk as if the present signs are

## Economic prospects to end 1980

	Percentage changes		Margin of error
	1978 to 1979	1979 to 1980	In 1980* per cent
A—Output and expenditure at constant 1975 prices Gross domestic product (at factor cost)	1	-2	1½
Consumers' expenditure	4	½	1½
General Government expenditure on goods and services	½	0	1½+
Public corporations' fixed investment	-4½	-4½	6½
Private sector investment	-2	-1	4
Exports of goods and services	1½	0	3½
Stockbuilding (as per cent of GNP)	½	-2	½
Imports of goods and services	11½	-2½	2½
B—Balance of payments on current account	1979 -2½	1980 £ billion -2	£ billion 2
C—Retail price index	Percentage changes		
	4th quarter 1978 to 4th quarter 1979	4th quarter 1979 to 4th quarter 1980	per cent
	17½	14	4

\* The errors relate to the average differences (on either side of the central figure) between forecast and actuals.  
+ This margin applies to general government consumption.

that the figure really is considerably higher. Yet nowhere does this widely accepted belief actually get reflected in the figures which are produced. There is an obvious reason for this quite apart from an unwillingness to read gloomy statistics (but anyone who does not like reading gloomy statistics ought not to be involved in British economic policy in the first place).

It is a fact that it unions see that the Government is assum-

ing that wages will grow by 18 per cent and that inflation will stay very high they will actually raise their pay claims. This is an old belief coming from a Government which is committed to not having an incomes policy; for if merely announcing a figure for the likely increase in earnings makes it come true the philosophy is stone which has eluded governments for so long has at last been found. Maybe that is what the

Government thinks it has done; by saying that wage settlements will fall in response to the Government's fiscal and monetary policies it will ensure that this happens.

Many of the other parts of the forecast look very shaky. For example, although real earnings are expected to fall the amount that we spend is expected to increase slightly. We are all assumed to be so imbued with confidence that we will feel secure about dipping into our savings in spite of the sharp increase in unemployment which looks likely.

## The international organizations are revising down their forecasts yet again after Iran

Then there is the position of the company sector, which is expected to run down its stocks next year as its response to and contribution to the recession. But suppose consumers did not hold up their spending either because their real earnings were lower than expected or because they kept up their savings. Just who would the companies sell their stocks to? They are most unlikely to be able to sell them abroad. The world outlook is likely to be pretty bleak next year and international organizations are revising down their forecasts yet again in the wake of the chaos in Iran.

It is not merely world trade growing slowly which will pose problems next year. Our industries will find great difficulty in competing. For too many years now our costs have been rising sharply while the exchange rate for the pound remains the same or sometimes rises. Sterling is expected to remain at the level of the next year, something which the Government can ensure by its own policies.

The words which the Government uses to describe the result are interesting. They say that the "price competitiveness does not change greatly from recent levels." What can this mean if our inflation is, on the

Government's own reckoning, going to be 14 per cent while that of the rest of the world will be significantly lower. It means that much depends on our rate of exchange, and when you think recently was...

The actual meaning of the phrase is almost certainly that on the Treasury's assumption, British industry will be less competitive, at this time next year than it is now. This is important in looking at some of the other parts of the forecast. Imports are expected to fall next year, a prediction quite hedged with the phrase that there is "particular uncertainty about satisfaction of imports."

There certainly is when imports have been doing particularly well in consumer goods and consumer spending alone is expected to rise next year. Yet even on these highly questionable assumptions, the Treasury forecasts a £2,000m balance of payments deficit next year, little less than this year.

We do not know what the Government expects the size of public borrowing to be next year, though in another of the phrases that occur throughout the forecast we are told that the prospect is for "little change" (how little?). As a proportion of output, but we are not told what that means in money and we are told that the forecast is "subject, of course, to a very high margin of error."

Most economists will deduce from that that the level of borrowing on present policies next year could be a lot higher than that. Even so, that tough decision is on the way, especially in the next Budget. The likelihood for such decisions will be increased, if pay goes on rising as at present. In the short run that might seem a good idea. But if the amount of money in the economy were held down, it could actually move around faster. But in the longer run, pay goes on rising, we will face a crunch much more severe than the latest forecast suggests. And the sooner the Government stops trying to fool itself and the rest of us that the country is doing the quicker we can do something about solving it.

Christopher Walker

# Every good US mole catcher knows how to type

Even after the Blunt affair few people in Britain know how our mole catchers work. But in the United States some of the curriculum for training American counter-intelligence agents is fairly common knowledge. They are put through a gruelling course at Fort Monmouth, in Arizona, designed to last 18 weeks, and then to last over 13 in more.

Much of the course is devoted to learning how to operate a 35mm camera, read a map, and in "classifying documents." There is also a "discovery" course, in which students are taught to "discover" a "source" and "develop" a "lead."

The modern United States counter-intelligence course, which came into operation in 1976, is a striking contrast with its predecessor from the 1950s. An essential part of the course is that there is no "political philosophy"—ridiculously classified as "restricted security information."

Nowadays the programme of instruction is computerized and combines teaching of the basic principles of counter-intelligence with their application in exercises. Every student taking part must, of course, have a security clearance and of the total 640 hours of tuition, just over 110 have a "classroom" of confidential and 50 secret. By far the greatest part of the course, 167 hours, is spent on security investigations, followed by 123 hours on "special operations"—protection of VIPs, counter-subversion, counter-sabotage, counter-espionage, surveillance and the handling of liaison contacts and confidential sources.

Confidential sources are not neglected. The student is taught how to "develop" a "source" and "develop" a "lead."

"Favourable, unfavourable and the walk-in."

Counter-subversion, counter-espionage and counter-sabotage are central to any training at Fort Monmouth but although they take up much of the course few details are publicly available. Students are tutored about "hostile intelligence" and about how to handle confidential sources.

In modern training political education plays only a minor role—five hours out of over 600. This is a far cry from the 1950s when the principles of democracy (summed as individualism, equality and freedom) were drilled into students at Fort Holabird in Maryland. Surprisingly, this philosophical survival kit for democracy was classified as "Restricted security information."

The modern course is marked with a warning: "These works are sympathetic to the Soviet point of view and should be read and evaluated accordingly."

The cadets of counter-intelligence, then, are now, estimated communist techniques of subversion but in far more detail and with far more confidence in the superiority of the American ideal.

American counter-intelligence training had advanced considerably since the 1950s and is now very thorough and well balanced. (There is even time for the student at Fort Monmouth to "meet with his faculty advisor" to discuss and identify "learning problem areas"). Its products have apparently been more successful in hindering the infiltration of moles than in British equivalent. Any argument that the Blunt affair should examine how well British mole-catchers are equipped to catch their quarry.

Trevor Barnes

The author was a research student at Harvard last year.

# A bruising, bitter year for Radio Scotland

Radio Scotland, one year old today, is a bruised and demoralized bairn. The BBC heralded its new station as historically significant in the development of radio broadcasting, but the service now faces retrenchment, and a new, undecided direction.

The BBC has had three controllers in Scotland in one year and Mr John Pickles, the first Head of Radio Scotland, departed with his deputy after heavy criticism of the station's output.

Uncertainty over the leadership of the corporation north of the border, and about funding for the future of the new service, has heaped extra trouble on the basic failure to

secure a strong audience and identity.

As the dust settles the fault appears to be that Radio Scotland attempted with one channel what the BBC in London achieves with four channels and bigger resources. Mr Pickles had an impossible task to compete with Radio Clyde and Radio Forth, both highly popular local stations, and at the same time provide a range of serious current affairs programmes, drama, and programmes of classical music.

As a backdrop to these problems came the political upheaval in Scotland. The Scottish Assembly and a stronger sense of Scottish identity, Edinburgh alone would have underpinned Radio Scotland's status

and involvement with important events. But after the general election and the Scottish referendum, politics drifted into the darkness.

Scotland lost its grip on Westminster's attention and there is the gloomy prospect that reporting Scottish affairs will become more the art of cataloguing industrial failure. So perhaps a measure of "pop and praise" will be needed to brighten the day.

Mr Pickles clearly thought so, but suffered a sustained barrage of complaints for such mixtures as *Rhythm and News* and *Introducing Bingo* to BBC broadcasting. There was also some indignation at the appointment of someone whose main experience had been in local radio to a broadcasting station which was to have national rather than regional status.

When Mr Alistair Hetherington, formerly of the *Guardian*, left as Controller of BBC Scotland, an insistent voice demanding a stronger Scottish dimension to broadcasting departed. His successor, Mr Patrick Ramsey, commissioned a report from the editor of Current Affairs, World Service, which weighed Radio Scotland in the balance and found it distinctly wanting.

He pointed out that there

The fault appears to be that Radio Scotland attempted with one channel what the BBC in London achieves with four channels

As a result Mr Ramsey has switched the points. The service is to be directed along a more steady track, leaving Radio One to take on the competition from local stations and adding weight to the news and current affairs coverage.

Mr Pat Walker, assistant controller, who is keeping a caretaker hand on Radio Scotland until a new head is appointed, says the station has produced some excellent material. The problems were being caused by "sudden changes of gear" and programmes jarring on one another with a kind of culture shock.

He pointed out that there

was more serious music now on Radio Scotland and there had been many fine documentary programmes. "Unfortunately these last for only half an hour whereas a programme that runs for an hour with information may last a couple of hours," he said.

The Scottish Assembly had a pressure point to creating a stronger Scottish dimension to the output of the station, but it was not to be. The Assembly was overhauled by a shortage of money and anxieties over the new licences.

Within its resources Radio Scotland had tried to achieve too much. In producing 150 hours of broadcasting a week including the output from Inverness and Aberdeen and the five Scottish local radio stations. "The bearings are starting to wobble. We will have to reduce the number of hours and perhaps bring more of the material from the local stations into the main stream of Radio Scotland," Mr Walker said.

Smoothing the edges, softening the culture shock and designing an even flow of programmes will be the task of the new head of Radio Scotland who is unlikely to be appointed for another two or three months.

Ronald Faux

# The link with Poussin

together, through a particular argument he remembers them having in dormitory in 1922, was over whether Poussin was "better" than Giorgione.

Sir Ellis recalled that episode in a preface to *Studies in Renaissance and Baroque Architecture*, presented to Anthony Blunt on his 70th birthday, a sort of premature *Festschrift* whose illustrious contributors included Lord Clark.

Professor Blunt, who was a brilliant gifted mathematician and philosopher before becoming an art historian, explained the basis of the interest in Poussin in one of his massive volumes on the French master.

In France, he explains, Poussin was regarded as a pictorial philosopher before he came to be seen primarily as one of the great masters of formal design. The main purpose of the book was to revive and develop that conception.

"Put quite bluntly, I believe that in creating his paintings,

Poussin was primarily inspired by a desire to give visible expression to certain ideas which, while not deserving the name of a philosophy in any technical sense, represent a carefully thought out view of ethics, a consistent attitude to religion, and, towards the end of his life, a complex, almost mystical conception of the universe", he wrote.

The attraction of Blake's art, on which Professor Blunt published a study in 1960, had a similar root: for Blake too, he believed, "any argument late the Blunt affair should examine how well British mole-catchers are equipped to catch their quarry."

The lure of Poussin, on whose 70th birthday Blunt produced a fascinating study in 1962 with Phoebe Pool, one of his Courtauld Institute students, was perhaps less subtle. Poussin, although no philosopher, was an artistic revolutionary and a communist. Any argument late the Blunt affair should examine how well British mole-catchers are equipped to catch their quarry.

Roger Berthoud

# Christmas is the cruellest time —when you're old and alone

Loneliness is harder to bear when you know that others have friends, good food and good cheer. It twists the knife of memory, with recollections of happier times.

For thousands of our old people this is all that Christmas brings—heartache. Just as for old people in hungry or disaster-stricken countries it means another day in which they are lucky if they get one scanty meal.

If you expect to enjoy the good things of Christmas, as we hope you do, then please share a little of your goodwill with someone who needs it very much indeed.

£5 is a real help towards a Day Centre.

£30 helps provide a Geriatric Day Hospital.

£150 inscribes the name of someone dear to you on the Dedication Plaque of the Day Centre you help.

Christmas is a time for caring and sharing. Please use the FREEPOST facility and address your gift to:

The Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T3, FREEPOST 30, London W1E 7JZ (No stamp needed).

\*Please let us know if you would like your gift used for a particular purpose.

# Symbolic cracks appear in the Wailing Wall

For 3,000 years the holy city of Jerusalem has been a source of conflict as peoples as diverse as the Babylonians, the British, the Jews, the Arabs, the Byzantines and the Ottomans have sought to impose their rule. Today, while the continuing conflict between Arab and Jew remains the central cause of disension, there are growing signs of internal division among sections of the Israeli population whose Government reunified the city after the 1967 war. Diplomatic observers note that these splits have become more marked in the two years since President Sadat's historic visit and the subsequent signing of the peace treaty.

The crux of the problem is the increasing gap between the secular Jews, who form the majority, and the extremist, orthodox minority whose influence has been growing out of all proportion to its numbers. In recent months this has led to a number of ugly confrontations and raised doubts about the future of community relations in a capital whose physical beauty has so often been marred by violence.

Two outstanding issues have both symbolized the conflict and exacerbated the consider-

able ill-feeling which has resulted from it: the as yet unrealized plan to build a 25,000-seat football stadium and the opening earlier this year of a new access road to the stark, secular Jewish suburb of Ramat on the hilly northern outskirts.

When it was first mooted in the wake of reunification 12 years ago the stadium scheme struck most uninvolved outsiders as eminently sensible. With the growing popularity of football in Israel and the inadequacy of the only two existing grounds (both over 40 years old), the need was felt to be pressing and a site at Shuafat was chosen after careful investigation of six other possibilities.

An intensive protest campaign was then organized by the orthodox community on the grounds that the stadium would interrupt the Sabbath. A 50,000-strong demonstration was organized in Jerusalem, the American Jewish lobby was mobilized and the chief rabbis called on Mr Teddy Kollek, the Mayor, to drop the plan "because it would imbue Jerusalem with Hellenistic culture."

The chief Rabbi Mr Kollek, once described by President Sadat as "the most famous mayor in the world" refused to give in. Then, for the sake of keeping the support of religious politicians for his coalition, Mr Begin, the Prime Minister, sud-

denly launched a new investigation into possible stadium sites. It has apparently found no other suitable site and the issue is expected to erupt again soon.

To make matters worse, the ultra-orthodox mounted a "Purified Jerusalem" campaign to prevent non-religious Jews from driving their cars on the Sabbath to the outlying suburb of Ramat.

Even more than the stadium controversy, the Ramat road campaign has demonstrated the bitter antagonism which has grown up between secular and orthodox Jews. Correspondents covering a recent riot had this brought home when a Jewish teenager was suddenly heard shouting angrily at the orthodox demonstrators: "Now I understand why they killed six million Jews—because of people like you."

Numerous compromise schemes have been suggested, including flanking the road with a high wall. But the secular community does not seem in the mood to give way or to finance what are seen by most Jerusalemites, including Mr Kollek, as unreasonable demands.

The majority of the extreme religious demonstrators are thought to have travelled from Mea Shearim, the city's main orthodox residential district. Situated near the centre of Jerusalem, it remains very much a place apart with its own customs, times and language—Yiddish rather than Hebrew.

A banner strung across one of the narrow streets and countless posters on the walls of the cramped buildings were warning women to respect the scriptures and dress "modestly".

The local women wear black stockings and scarves or wigs to cover their hair, and the bearded men or *Hassidim* all wear the shabby black or striped coats, curly earlocks and black hats that were once familiar in mid-European ghettos.

# Waiting for the Messiah

Although fervently Jewish and strictly kosher, many Mea Shearim residents are as opposed to the present state of Israel as any Palestinian revolutionary. Those adhering to the powerful Neturei Karta sect refuse to recognize a Zionist state until the coming of the Messiah. As a result they refuse to pay taxes to join the Army or even to visit the Wailing Wall now that it is under Israeli control. Where possible, they take only Arab taxis, refuse to use the "Zionist" telephone and avoid using Israeli money.

In the past few weeks, a violent feud has broken out in Mea Shearim between the ultra-conservative anti-Zionist factions and supporters of Agudat Yisrael, a sect which participates in the political life of the state and is prepared to accept

at least, he won't have a lot of devoted ex-students writing in support...



government cash to finance its strictly religious schools.

As well as leaving one prominent rabbi with a head wound which needed 40 stitches, the dispute has taken a number of bizarre forms. Groups of orthodox Jews slurching wooden staves have been seen guarding synagogues and private homes, and have been used to intimidate

rabbi. One had his telephone rung at the start of the Sabbath, meaning that under religious law he had to let it ring, unaware that it was 24 hours.

Riddled with contradictions, the Mea Shearim dispute is essentially the culmination of a struggle for power between those orthodox Jews who refuse to recognize the state and those who are slightly less rigid, being willing to barter political support in exchange for cash and the Government's sponsorship of an strict new legislation on religious issues. The cash is generally regarded as the reason why orthodox Jews are so pale despite the noted Israeli sunshine.

Although brutal and bewildering in equal measures, the feuding is not thought by local observers to be sufficient serious to defuse the wider and potentially more damaging clash between secular and ultra-religious Jews. As one Western diplomat explained: "The real test of peace will be to see whether Israeli society can cope with its internal strains without the unifying threat of war."

Christopher Walker



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## SIR LEON BAGRIT

### Early faith in automation

manufacturing process. Wallis quelled the opposition partly by the hard logic of his reasoning and partly by his personal enthusiasm and, with Rex Pierson, he triumphantly carried his invention through to the final test of flight performance.

The first geodesic type of aircraft to be used by the Royal Air Force was the Vickers Wellington and it was this aircraft that strikingly justified Wallis's invention by setting a world non-stop flight distance record of 11,500 kilometres in 1938. It was the improvement of nearly 1,400 kilometres on the previous record and it stood for seven years. On active service the rain-engined Wellington bomber further demonstrated the validity of the geodesic invention by carrying out 12,000 Wallis's reputation as a creative engineer. The Wellington, by virtue of its form of construction, was found to be especially resistant to battle damage.

Early in the Second World War Wallis was asked to prepare a planning memorandum on various means of delivering a critical attack upon the enemy and in it he referred to the possibility of breaching the big German dams by attack from the air. This cutting the enemy's power to their armaments industry. The dam defences, however, were elaborate and proof against any normal form of bombing. So Wallis devised his own special attack method and engaged his whole being in the prodigious fight to develop it and to win for it the approval of the authorities.

It was a cylinder over 5ft long and 12 in diameter containing explosive. Before being dropped from the aircraft it was given an initial spin of 500 rpm and was released from a height of 60ft at a speed of 220 mph. By bouncing on the surface of the water it would have stepped the defences and brought the full force of its charge, coupled with the water-hammer effect, against the face of the dam. The rest of the history of the Vickers Wellington Command, Guy Gibson and Number 617 Squadron of the Royal Air Force on the historic raid which breached the Möhne and Eder dams. Wallis's inventive genius had again been put to the test.

It was a hard task to obtain the necessary support for his invention; but his powers of clear exposition, no matter how technically formidable the subject, his persistence and the way in which he tackled every new problem that arose in no matter what field of science and technology, gave him the final success. Other wartime inventions were the specially designed 12 in. diameter bomb which sank the German battleship, Tirpitz, and erased the threat to London of the V3, besides playing an important role in disrupting German reinforcements to the beach-heads after Bay and the 22,000-lb "grand slam" bombs.

After the war Wallis embarked on what many believed to be his most daring invention. This was for "flying bodies" or aerodynes without any wings and which only rudimentary variable sweep wings. A patent for this "improved form of aeroplans" was applied for in March, 1945, the wings to be "adjustable relative to the fuselage in planar flight". It was the start of his great work on variable geometry aeroplanes. It carried forward

the work done by Geoffrey Hill on variable sweep wings for tailless aircraft and touched the subject of the flying body earlier to consider in his designs for comprehensive variable sweep, supersonic aircraft. Wallis said that he originally conceived the idea of variable geometry wings when he was analysing the German V2 rockets and their manner of control. In his own drawing office at Weybridge, in the site where the Brooklands Automobile Racing Club clubhouse had stood, Wallis worked out the details on this invention, theoretically and practically in wind tunnels and with free flying models. Eventually he put forward a complete design for a variable geometry, supersonic aircraft which was to be known as the Swallow and it incorporated not only variable sweep wings, but also variable thrust lines for the engines and a means for insulating the structure from the surface heating associated with prolonged periods of supersonic flight.

On this occasion, however, even Wallis's persistence and his expository persuasiveness—even his past record as a far-sighted and successful inventor—failed to convince the authorities and he had the disappointment of seeing his invention handed to the Americans. That was in May, 1958, when Mr. Aubrey Jones, then Minister of Supply, spoke of a "joint arrangement". Lack of support for Wallis was sharply criticised by members of Parliament, in particular by Major (as he then was) Legge-Somerset, who said that the Government should make any changes to the Government's attitude to the invention.

By 1967, with the American

Electric Company helped and he was expected to succeed to the highest office at Standard Telephones. His broadening interests took him into the Institution of Production Engineers where, true to form, he rapidly became chairman of the Council. As a factory manager he was in the Second World War often in touch with Ernest Bevin at the Ministry of Labour; with Lord Beaverbrook, also a minister at the time; and with Walter (later Lord) Citrine. In 1942 Oliver Lyttelton (Lord Chandos) took him into the new Ministry of Production. To set up the regional organizations, Kipping realized that if the new boards were to succeed leading industrialists must be recruited to them and he made no bones about it. At the time, however, he was still unknown. What he established, was the basis for the postwar regional boards for industry.

In 1945 the egg had to be unscrambled and Sir Stafford Cripps, then at the Board of Trade, pressed Kipping to become a second secretary in the Civil Service. Kipping was not attracted but agreed to stay on for a few months as Under-Secretary at the Board. Although he enjoyed being at the centre of national affairs he preferred the independence of industry and fully expected to go back to Standard Telephones. In 1946 he was knighted for his wartime work.

A month before he left the Board Sir Clive (later Lord) Baillet, then president of the Council of British Industries, invited him to be director-general of the FBI. This to Kipping was the ideal combination of a central position with an industrial connotation. From his wartime service he knew all about the problems of industry and he was acquainted with the top men of industry. He realized that the new bonds between government and industry would not be loosened and, as a sometimes emotional patriot, he believed that the British race depended upon a closer working between the two. In this he was far ahead of many traditionally inclined businessmen.

He also believed that the FBI was sadly in need of reorganization and one of the first targets he set himself was to achieve the fusion of the FBI with the British Employers' Confederation and the National Association of British Manufacturers. Twenty years later accomplishment of that ambition meant his own retirement and rarely did anyone conspire so selflessly in his own dissolution. His immediate task in 1946 was to set up a regional organization for the FBI and to revise its structure and committees. Before long membership had doubled.

The fact that the FBI increased its claim to be the voice of industry resulted in large part from Kipping's determination to make it responsible and politically neutral. It was first and foremost a free enterprise organization having no truck with nationalized bodies, but Kipping would not allow it to be a propaganda machine in any political sense. His reward was that Conservative and Labour administrations alike relied on the FBI for counsel, and as the legislative machine penetrated further and further into commerce and industry, business was consulted before measures were enacted. As the FBI Grand Council had nearly 400 members, disputes about the way things were going must have occurred in the



council chamber at Tenth Street but no word of them leaked out and Kipping always insisted that the perennially high quality of his lay officers and permanent staff enabled him to do as much as he did.

Nowadays it is difficult to remember how jealously industry guarded its independence. Kipping never compromised it but he mobilized British industrial effort to national needs when the economy's resources had declined. He was a salesman and his greatest work was sales in the international field. In Cripps's day he was British Secretary of the Anglo-American Productivity Council and had much to do with the British Productivity Council. He was also the midwife of British Overseas Fairs from whose exhibitions the surge of British exhibitions developed — in Baghdad, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Brussels, Lisbon, New York, Stockholm, Zurich, Barcelona, Sydney, and Tokyo. The overseas fairs were the pride of the FBI and all drew on the prestige Kipping achieved overseas. He went abroad like an industrial prime minister, consulting FBI agents rather than diplomatic quarters in foreign capitals. With his independence he could often act when governments hesitated. He told the Japanese some home truths about trade liberalization which led to better Anglo-Japanese business relations. He was the architect of what became known as the Aid for Europe. He had much to do with Commonwealth negotiations, and efforts developed from conversations between the FBI and its counterparts in *les quatres*. The trade agreement with East Germany went through FBI channels because diplomatic relations were not yet established. He was instrumental in independence in Nigeria. Kipping led a delegation to see how British industry could help industrial development.

The list of his activities in these directions will never be complete because the extent to which Kipping was consulted by home and foreign governments will never be known. He was a man of a monument of discretion who preferred being trusted to being publicly acclaimed. A summons from the Treasury or

Widhis married Mary Frances Bloxham in 1925. They had two sons and two daughters. Hobbies did not greatly attract him and walking and gardening were among his few recreations. He was made a CBE in 1943 and in 1945 he received the Ewing Medal. ICE, and was elected a Freeman and Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights and a Freeman of the City of London. He became a member of the Royal Society in 1954. He was a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society which awarded him its silver medal in 1928 and 1937. He received the Founders' Medal of the Royal Society of Aeronautics in 1937 for his wartime inventions he was awarded £10,000 by the Government and he gave this, with a like sum subscribed by the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, to his school, Christ's Hospital. His death in 1968 was a belated recognition of his great services to both aviation and his country.

The Board of Trade was not routing to be mentioned by what Kipping said to Chancellors and other Ministers, though unrecorded, would often lead to policy changes.

It would, for instance, be fastidious to know the full story of how Kipping was summoned to the War Office and asked to draw up a plan for the demilitarization of the Suez Zone before the Suez debacle. He was called to the War Office in leading industrialists and others to help him with a blue-print, finally persuading the late Sir John Duncan to take charge of the operation.

But the habits brought no detail of the day to day work of the FBI escaped Kipping. He was an architect of the British Institute of Management, and the now accepted idea that management is a fit subject for academic study, owe much to his efforts. FBI publications on anything from civil research to the maintenance of a safe distance from Tophill Street. The FBI export trends surveys were accepted as a barometer of the business climate. By attending more than 100 official dinners a year and being a guest (generally as a speaker) at countless organizations Kipping was uniquely in touch with affairs. At one of the many conferences of the FBI the conception of the National Economic Development Council was born. Even at the end of his 20 years of service to the FBI Kipping was restless mind was identifying needs and hatching ideas.

He was not always immediately acceptable as a companionable man. In spite of his majestic bulk and gleaming dome of a head, he gave the impression of being austere and cold. Like a good engineer, he was not at all shabby academically, he was precise and careful. Those who knew him could often detect a twinkle and he liked to unbend even if he did not always succeed in doing so. His knack of simplifying problems and his high level of efficiency, essential made him unresponsive to idle talk, and his dry deliberations leading on to a devastatingly common-sense exposition often chastened the rasher men.

The significance and importance of Bagrir's contribution to industry was his realization, just after the Second World War, that the most time-gaining and increasing use of mechanical processes, which would constitute something like a new industrial revolution. By the time he had reached middle life, Bagrir had developed a striking and most versatile personality, which manifested itself not only in the fields of invention and business management, but in those of music and the visual arts.

All this arose from zero. Born on March 19, 1901, the son of a poor peasant, Bagrir, he found himself, at the age of 12, in England, the family having lost all their possessions in Belgium as a consequence of the German invasion. He spoke no English at that time. But he had great abilities, and eventually attended school at St. David's and College of the University of London, where he emerged as a cultivated

## Frise

Mr L. G. Frise, FRAE, whose death at the age of 84 was reported on October 9, was an aeronautical engineer who designed a considerable number of the best known aircraft of the British aircraft industry has produced.

Leonard George Frise was educated at Bristol Grammar School and Bristol University and served in the Royal Naval Air Service in the early years of the First World War. In 1916 he joined the Bristol Aeroplane Company where he was to be responsible for the designs of

which received worldwide notice and won him the Walker Trophy of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

In 1934 Frise designed the *monoplane*, Bristol First which had retractable undercarriage. It was found on test to be 100mph faster than its competitor, the *biplane* which was the standard formula for aerodynamic and structural efficiency. Designed as a fighter, Bristol First was nevertheless to make its name in the bomber role. It was the first of the RAF's standard light bomber at the outbreak of the Second World War. This was followed by the Beaufort, another only moderately successful design. It was the next, which, however, in the astonishingly short time of six months from the outbreak of war, Frise created the Beaufighter which was a fast, high speed and fearsome forward firing armament was to become one of the outstandingly successful long-range night intruders of the war.

Designed for Bristol included the Brigand, a bomber-bomber and torpedo carrier which saw action in Malaya after the 1950s as a well into the 1960s as a meteorological research aircraft. It was Frise's design, the Bombay, developed after the war, developed after the war, into the Bristol Freighter which was an excellent weight lifter and pioneered the concept of nose-loading doors. The giant *Erabazon*, for which Frise won the contract, was one of his most epic achievements.

In 1948, by then Chief Designer for Bristol, Frise left the company for Percival, later Hunting Percival Aircraft Ltd. Here he produced the naval version of the Prince, the Sea Prince, a highly successful aircraft used as a navigation trainer and airborne classroom in the services, and widely deployed as an aerial survey plane, small airliner and executive aircraft by civil interests in many countries.

He also designed the single-engine basic trainer the Provost for the RAF and its remarkable and long-lived gas turbine engine successor, the Jet Provost, which went through a host of versions, even

fees by playing the violin in the Philharmonic Orchestra.

It is not unusual for musical ability to be found in conjunction with a scientific and technical background. (Einstein and Schrodinger are notable examples), and Bagrit started work in the engineering industry, with Messrs. Avery, makers of weighing machines. He moved in 1927 to the General Electric Co. as a rival firm. Herbert and Susan, at the early age of 25, he became an inventor, and in 1935 he founded a firm of his own, P. Swift, chiefly to exploit his own patents. The firm did well, and was helped by war work. In 1946 it was taken over by Elliott Brothers, instrument makers. Bagrit became the first managing director and then managing director.

The combined resources of Swift's and Elliott's applied intensively to government production and brought about a very busy prosperity. With the return of peace the orientation of the firm's work had to be

created the armaments division of the company. Not only was he busy in the aerodynamic and structural aspects of aircraft design but he also designed the gun turret systems and hydraulics of his wartime aircraft and the first all-electric cannon turret in the country was from his drawing board.

From 1949 to 1955 he was Technical Director and Chief Engineer of Hunting Percival Ltd and from 1955 to 1962 was Director of Special Projects of Blackburn Aircraft Ltd. He was also managing director of his own company, Frise Patent Ltd and Frise Engineering Ltd.

January 24 at the age of 82. John Benstead was born on January 10, 1897 and educated at King's School, Peterborough. At 14 he went to work as a clerk with the Great Northern Railway and served in the First World War as a Writer in the Royal Army.

In 1920 he joined the NUR and became an active trades unionist. In 1943 he became General Secretary of the NUR, holding this post until 1947 in a period where the main pre-occupation was the running of the railways in wartime; hence it was not a tenure of office which saw radical strides in NUR policy. In 1946 Benstead was President of the International Transport Workers Federation and in the same year a member of the Royal Commission on the Press. He was a member of the Advisory Committee for Scientific and Industrial Research from 1943 to 1948 and of the colonial and Economic Development Council from 1947 to 1948.

But in 1947 his career had taken another direction when he became a member of the British Transport Commission. Two years later he became Deputy Chairman, a post he held until his retirement in 1961. In 1967 he became a Deputy Lieutenant for Humbugdon and a Member of the Order of the British Empire.

He was appointed CBE in 1946 and knighted in 1953. He married, firstly in 1922, Gladys Mary Palmer. She died in 1965 leaving him one daughter. In 1967 he married Catherine Ferguson McCabe

Bargir believed in a very large measure of decentralization in each of the companies of his industrial group. Various companies were acquired from time to time because each was found capable of making a specific contribution to the overall development of the country. Of course, he achieved in this measure; but behind his operations as a business man there was the need of deep thinking about the needs of the country. He was the second husband of the twentieth century and the steps necessary to achieve success in a new age—an age which, he firmly believed, would see the second world war and the economic and political consequences of immense significance to the country's future. He felt that the opportunity was wide open, and must not be neglected.

It is a type not often encountered in the business world. Bargir added to his technical and scientific genius a broad general culture. He was widely

evening at a special school for poor children. He continued these classes after he joined a branch of the FIAT factory in Bologna, where among other jobs he swept the floors and cleaned parts from stripped engines. But Mussolini's rising will to power and won the affluence of Eduardo Weber (a doctor to become famous as a curator expert) and when he left FIAT at 14 to work for Isotta-Fraschini, he was fortunate enough to become the protégé of Alfieri Maserati.

After war service in the Italian army he returned to the Isotta concern, where he built his first car in 1920.

A year later he met the great racing driver, Tazio Nuvolari. Gordini dis-

aviation pioneer. They remained together until Gordini's death in 1926. At that time, his business was specializing in the modification and preparation of racing cars. But that time he was already married and his son Aldo later became a well-known competitor in his father's class.

Together with the five mechanics on his payroll, Gordini was dedicated to motor sport and he had much success. In 1929 he reached the top of the 1934 Bol d'Or race against several supercharged Amilcar, MG and Salomon cars. Gordini was invariably accompanied by his son, who acted as a mechanic, a coach and a pit manager, and driving together they later went on to win their class in the long-distance races at Spa, Rheims, Albi and Pau in France.

Gordini's courage and victories brought him recognition at last and José Scaron co-drove with him for the 1938 Le Mans race where they were disqualified for fuel tank infringement. The following year, however, Gordini and Scaron took their Gordini-Simca 1435 cc car to a brilliant win in the Index of Performance and also their class. Gordini was acclaimed in France and abroad for winning a nickname which stayed with him for the rest of his life—"Le Sorcier de l'Automobile", or "The Magician". He concealed the German occupation, and afterwards it appeared as if he had been driven to future victories by his great friends Jean-Pierre Wimille and Raymond Sommer.

The deaths of both drivers while racing was a bitter blow to Gordini and he himself retired from driving in 1947, handing over to his son. But he never gave up his love of competition and in 1951 severed his connections with Simca, to become an independent constructor of monoposto grand prix cars and sports cars. The swift little Gordinis made a name for themselves all over Europe and in South America, driven by such men as Fangio, Harry Schell, Jean Behra and Maurice Trintignant.

In 1953, Gordini was made a Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur for his services to the French motor industry.



## Obituaries Supplement

## Rich talent of favourite performers

## Miss Beatrix Lehmann

Miss Beatrix Lehmann, the actress, who died on July 31, aged 76, was among the most tragically individual players of her generation.

Stage history will doubtless rank her as a tragedienne. Spare and intense, she had a voice that reminded one of a critic of a raut violin-string. Totally uncompromising and with an extraordinary sense of the macabre, certain of her creations stay in the mind as frightening figures slightly out of drawing. Yet, when she wished, she could turn with relish to comedy and her landlady ("I am fully occupied") in the 1964 revival of Ben Travers's *A Cuckoo in the Nest* at the Royal Court remains as a collector's piece.

Probably this will have to be in the background when her work is finally assessed, for she wore the tragic mask far more often—for example, as Lavina in O'Neill's *Mourning Becomes Electra*. Greek tragedy in New England frame. (Curiously, she appeared only once in Greek tragedy proper.) She was Mrs Alving in *Ghosts*, and in her comparative youth, Emily Blount in *Wild Swans* (1928), who overbore all else in the play; she had, too, the gift of striking terror, something few of her contemporaries achieved. Though she appeared three or four times in Shakespeare, her true place was elsewhere, on the haunted, shadowy margins of the drama.

Born on July 1, 1903, she was the second daughter of Rudolph Lehmann, an elder sister of Rosamund and John Lehmann, the writers. Trained at RADA, in her early years on the stage she was distinguished by her dramatic intensity and her ability to understand the subtleties of the human mind. She had a powerful experience with Peter Godfrey in days when the *Globe Theatre* was the centre of London's avant-garde; and she made her first strong mark with the critics as the fanatical Susie in O'Casey's *The Silver Tassie* (1929). During the summer of 1933 she drew at Emily Blount in *Wild Swans* like a wind across the moor, and though the play failed itself her reputation from that moment was sure; not unfortunately, that there was a storm enough in it.

Quietly and touchingly, she played the actress at home again in Priestley's *Eden End* (1934); and in 1937 (*Westminster*) she was the definitive Layton in the play. In the tragic scheme of *Mourning Becomes Electra*. Soon afterwards she had two other major successes: the crazed misanthrope in a thriller called *The Walk Alone* (1938), and back at the Westminster (1940) Abbie in O'Neill's cold-form farm melodrama, *Desire Under the Elms*.

She was Mrs Alving (*Ghosts*). For the first time at the Duke of York's (1943); three years later she had a brief period as director producer of the Arts Council Midland Theatre company at Coventry; and in 1946, later that year, she played with chilling terror the lesbian in *Victorious Circle* (Surrey's *Hulst*). Peter Brook directed this; it was natural, no doubt, though the casting seemed odd, that she should go on to act an angular, gaunt Nurse in his production of *Romeo and Juliet* at Stratford in 1947; her other parts, though as testing as *Viola* and *Isabella*, seem to matter less. Through ensuing years we were never sure how Beatrix Lehmann would be acting again at her apogee: few plays could offer the chance, though she did find one at last in *The Waste of the Terebras* (1956) when she appeared as the mad wife. The domestic drama in *Pinter's* *The Birthday Party* (Lyric, Hammersmith, 1958) gave little opportunity; then she came back, grandly if briefly, to Shakespeare, as a coldly ambitious Lady Macbeth in *The Old Vic* (also 1958). In the following summer she was the enigmatic old woman in *The Aspern Papers* (Queen's).

Five years passed before she returned to the stage, and then typically, in *A Cuckoo in the Nest*. Later she had only a few parts of quality, though she was in the National Theatre production of *The Storm* (Old Vic, 1965), governed *The Trojan Wars* (Mermaid, 1967) as *Recuba*, and reverted to the Nurse in the RSC's *Romeo and Juliet* (Stratford, 1973). Her final part was the dowager in Eliot's *The Family Reunion* at Manchester.

She acted in films and on television (where she was *Volumnia* in *Coriolanus*) and also wrote two novels, in 1945 she was President of the British Actors' Equity Association.

## Mr Guy Bolton

Mr Guy Bolton, the dramatist, who died on September 4, 1979, aged 94, had been for 60 years among the most prolific contributors to the Anglo-American stage. He wrote or collaborated on more than 100 plays and librettos.

The ideal collaborator, he could give and receive without difficulty; his work was prized for its technique. Though

Dame Gracie Fields, DBE, who died on September 27, at the age of 81, was perhaps the most popular entertainer of the day. She was, moreover, one of those few who were able to step beyond the strict limits of their profession and become a national figure. To many thousands of people who never saw her "Our Gracie" was a beloved character, the very embodiment of that fairy-tale quality in one age which allowed a poor mill girl to rise, by talent, personality and character, above the circumstances of her birth to astonishing heights of success.

Born at Rochdale, Lancashire, on January 9, 1898, her real name was Grace Scamfield, and she was only eight when she first sang in a local cinema. She used also to sing outside the lodgings of music hall performers in the hope of attracting their attention, but the only engagement she got in this way was to assist an artist by singing choruses from the gallery. The child's efforts did so, however, promptly suppressed by a woman sitting near her, who did not realize that she was part of the show. Later she danced and sang with the famous juvenile troupe of the music hall, the Young Stars. In 1913 she made her first appearance as a single entertainer, playing in the Oldham, played in her own pantomime. If she could not obtain theatrical engagements she worked, at this period, in a cotton mill, a shop, or a public house, and when in 1915 she joined a touring revue her mother told her that if she did not then "make good" she would have to go back to the mill as a penniless girl.

Yes, I think so, which was produced at Hulton, Manchester, early in 1915, and in July of 1916 she made her first Middlesex Music Hall, in Drury Lane, where Gracie Fields made her first London appearance. The principal comedian in that revue was Archie Pitt, with whose production she was in many years associated and

whom later she married. For two years from February, 1916, they played together in *It's a Bargain*, and in 1918 began a tour of seven years in *Mr Tower of London*, probably the most successful touring revue ever produced. It several times filled the bill at London music halls, including notably the Alhambra, and in it the charm, humour, and freshness of Gracie Fields began to attract general notice. After a period in another revue, *By Request*, she appeared again as a single act, and in February, 1923, was engaged by the late Sir Gerald du Maurier to act as Lady Weir with him in *SOS*. The fact of one of the most popular "agitators" of his day thus choosing a young music hall singer for a leading part in one of his productions caused a considerable stir at the time. This was, however, her only "straight" part, and before long she was back again in variety and revue, one of her chief successes being in *The Show's The Thing*, at the Victoria Palace, and subsequently at other London theatres. In 1930 she paid her first visit to America, to perform at the Palace Theatre, New York.

The following year saw the beginning of her screen career, her first film being *Sally in Our Alley*, in which she introduced "Sally" the most popular of all her songs. Her later films included *Looking on the Bright Side*, *Love Life and Laughter*, *Sing As We Go*, and *Look Up and Laugh*. She signed her first contract with the CBE in 1935, when she was then the biggest contract ever made by a film or stage actress in this country, committed to being her in about \$150,000 in two years. The sale of her gramophone records, too, was vast, four million of them being sold in less than five years. In 1937 she received the freedom of her native town of Rochdale, and in 1938, she was created CBE. A woman of great generosity, she established an orphanage at Pesecheven in Scotland.

Gracie Fields' first marriage was dissolved in 1940, and she then married the Italian-born



entertainer Monty Banks. It was typical of her lively generosity of spirit that during the Second World War she appeared wherever she could to strengthen morale and encourage servicemen and workers. One almost legendary tour took her, in six weeks, from Scaup Flow to Plymouth, giving three performances a day in army and air force camps and in factories. The performances were themselves, unashamedly, humorous, and the last was no less fresh and vigorous than the first. After the war, and the death of her second husband in 1950, the pace of her career slackened still further. Her third marriage, to Boris Alperovich, in 1952, saw her partial retirement to a home in Capri. The comparative rarity of her public appearances seemed

not to lessen her popularity or her place in the normally fickle memory of the public. She was, in her later days, less a legend than a personal friend of every member of her audiences, a happy, honest, and good-hearted visitor to whose appearances everybody looked forward. Her autobiography, *Sing As We Go*, was published in 1960. It conveyed a good deal of the directness, simplicity, and refinement of an artist who never lived or could have tolerated the idea of living her personal life in public. Between the lively, adored entertainer and her private concerns, with their great generosity and secretive kindness, a taciturnity was always drawn.

She toured British Canada and Australia in 1964 and the United States a year later. She

retained to Rochdale in 1978 to open a theatre named after her and was warmly greeted (which warmth she returned in good measure and in characteristic unbridled style) and subsequently made a surprise appearance at what was to be her last Command Performance. In the New Year Honours List (of 1979) she was advanced to DBE and in February received the highest award of the great personalities of an earlier generation—say Marie Lloyd or Miss Vesta Tilley—would be pointless, since she worked in such changing circumstances and was able to supplement her music hall work with the new media of the talking film and the wireless. But though the screen and the radio helped to build up her tremendous reputation, though she made some extremely successful and enjoyable films of an unsophisticated kind and was a tremendous draw also upon the air, she was first and foremost, a music hall performer, and those who never saw her in the flesh, singing to an audience actually present, never knew the essential Gracie Fields.

Slender, rather tall, with a slight stoop, thin lips and strongly marked, somewhat pointed features, she caught the attention immediately she appeared. Her face, crowned with a mass of hair, looking back from a broad, high forehead, was incongruous rather than beautiful. As a performer she had two great gifts, a delicate sense of burlesque and a genuine, unfeigned, and unexceptional beauty and flexible voice, with a wide range. Her vocal technique improved steadily throughout her career, and even late in life the beauty of her high notes and the precision and neatness of her phrasing were remarkable. The excellence of

her singing, indeed, at one time seemed a menace to her performance, for the sentimental ditties, on which she lavished so much artistry, were quite unworthy of her talent. Early in her career she had an excellent opinion of these fearful ballads by introducing into the middle of her song some ludicrous trick of voice, or by absconding with her back between high notes. Then for a time she became, to the disappointment of her more discerning admirers, more and more a serious sentimental singer, and her charming little burlesques and her comic songs in her native Lancashire dialect became less and less frequent. However, though she did not return to the burlesque of her sentimental numbers, she restored a proper proportion of comic singing, and would give eight or 10 songs, on end, and, as a result, her singing was always good-humoured, inoffensive and full of character, seemed to bubble out of herself, and needed none of the extravagant make-up or costume upon which many comedienne have relied. Gracie Fields could change in a second, from a tearful, agonized, high-chambered, pleading, for "Music, Music, Please" to the Lancashire mill girl who owned "The Biggest Aspidochelone" in the "World" or had been to the "Christening of Mrs. Bland's" without changing her dress or even altering the set of her hair. Just as quickly and easily she could become the young Welsh girl whose family had "gone to keep up with the Joneses" (Gracie Fields had a very great aptitude for comic talent, a lovely voice and a personality—perhaps the most important asset of all, since the basis of the art of the musical hall is personality) which made her, whether singing or acting, a very great success, and was, unfortunately, good and likable company.

Miss Iris Hoey, the actress, died on May 13 at the age of 93. During a notable career extending over 50 years she was the most successful of the Shakespearean musical comedies and from restoration comedy to farce. She was extremely beautiful, with a dignified bearing and an abundant sense of humour which enabled her, in later life, to wear her years lightly. Born in London on July 17, 1885, she studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. Her first professional part in the *Herbert Tree* gave her her first walking part in *The Darling of the Gods* at His Majesty's at the end of 1903. An appearance as a fairy in *The Tempest* soon followed, as did her promotion to the part of Ariel. Then she turned to musical comedy and was in *The Little Michus* and *The Geisha* before going back with *Three to Play* at the *Reverend of Juliet*. She was then paired with him as *Rose* in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and took part in his Shakespeare Festival as *Anna* in *As You Like It*. She was an indefatigable worker and was always anxious to extend her dramatic knowledge. In 1911 she played in a farce, *Snub Mine*, with Mr. Weedon Grossmith, who was then a very good performer. She scored another considerable success in 1918 in the *Man from Torquay*, and appeared in the revival of the comedy in 1925. In the meantime she had toured extensively and for a few months went into management at the Duke of York's Theatre.

In the early part of 1929 she joined Sir Frank Benson's company, playing such parts as *Lady Teazle* and *Lydia* in *As You Like It*, for which she was seen to great advantage in costume. She was in *Noël Coward's* *The Young Idea* in 1931, and afterwards in a number of restoration comedies including *The Alchemist* and *The Country Wife*. In the *Open Air Theatre* in 1934 she played *Maria* in *The Twelfth Night* and the Courtesan in *The Comedy of Errors* and in the 1942 production of *Peter Pan* she was a likable Mrs. Darling. In Mr. Pinter's *Fertwee's* melodrama *Pink Stripes* and *Sealing Wax* in 1943 she was the deliciously incompetent mother of a family in a sentimental domestic comedy dealing with (off stage) murder and suicide. She was seen in a number of British films in which she gave the same distinction and beauty that she brought to every theatrical production during her long career.

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## Mr Roddy McMillan

Mr Roddy McMillan, the actor and playwright, died on July 9 in Glasgow. He was 56.

He was known to many television viewers for his ability to draw sharp character sketches and his talents were seen to advantage in such productions as *The View from Daniel Pike*, in which he starred, the two delightful *Pura Handy* series and in Robert Louis Stevenson's *Kidnapped*, some years ago in which he played the spirited Jacobite Alan Breck Stewart with great panache. Mr McMillan had an excellent reputation on the stage in Scotland and was the author of several plays including *All in Good Faith*, put on at the Gateway Theatre, Edinburgh in 1963, and *The Repellers* which was concerned with an apprentice's first day in the booting shop of a glass firm in Glasgow which was seen both in Scotland and at the Shaw Theatre in London. McMillan was here drawing on personal experience

## Miss Barbara Mullen

Miss Barbara Mullen, an actress who became wide known as the soft-voiced, white-haired housekeeper in the *Finley's Casebook* television radio series, died on March 24, aged 64. She first appeared in the *Dr Finley* series in 1957. She played Janet of Ard House in the fictional village of Taunton.

Her stage career began at the age of three when she began a child dance at Boston, Massachusetts where she was born on June 9, 1914.

Her parents had emigrated from America to the Irish island of Mull, where she lived through the depression. Her father, a mill worker, became a famous pianist in the Mull of Aram, in Rob Phaherty's classic documents film, returned to the island, leaving his wife, Bridget, bringing up his children in a lonely house during prohibition. Miss Mullen sang and danced theatres, before setting off for London where she became a student at the Webber-Douglas Drama Centre.

In 1938 she published an autobiography, *Life is My Business*, and in 1940 had major success in the West End play, *Jeannette*. Since then, she has appeared on stage, in films and on television on both sides of the Atlantic.

She maintained a close contact with the Irish island, where she lived in the West End, 3 years a husband, the film producer, John Taylor, and his daughter.

## Mr Richard Hearne

Mr Richard Hearne, OBE, an actor and entertainer, who was known as "Mr. Harry" for many years, died on August 25 at the age of 75. Though he had long been known for many years as a comedian, he was also a serious actor, and his work was not only a success but a triumph. He was born in Norwich, England, and was an actor in a variety of roles, including a role in the management to talk, showing an actor clearly advanced in years, to carry victory.

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## Mr George Bren

Mr George Bren, the Irish leading man who went to Hollywood, successfully achieved the switch from silent to sound film, and in 1930s and 1940s developed into a solid middleweight leading man to strong drama.

He played several times in the *Great Lie*, which offered a powerful picture of a man's life. In *Our Life*, Bren, in his part, had parts in the famous musical *2nd Street* and was seen opposite Greta Garbo in *Maestro*. Bren's *Painted Veil*.

## Mr Richard Beckinsale

Mr Richard Beckinsale, who was found dead at his home in Sunningdale on March 19, was a talented comedy actor familiar to television viewers for his appearances opposite Ron Barker in the two little parodies, *BBC's Parody* and *Gone Straight*, and also his playing in the equally parodical *Yorksire* television series *Rising Damp*, starring Lesa Rooster.

Viewers with longer memories will remember his adroit performance with Paul Wilton in *The Lovers*. He appeared more than once in success on the West End stage.



# Rise and fall of overseas contenders for power

## PRESIDENT HOUARI BOUMEDIENNE

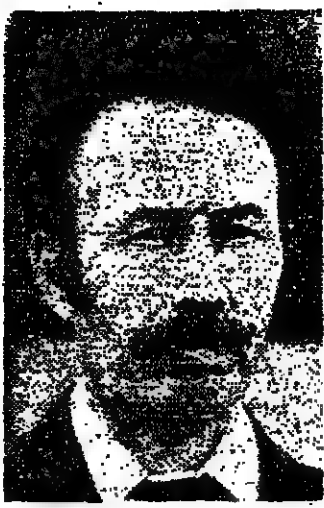
### Significant influence in Third World

President Houari Boumedienne of Algeria died last December 27.

His real name was Mohamed Bou Khabrouba, and he was born at Guelma, near Bone, in 1925. He received a Koranic education at the Zitouna Mosque, in Tunis, and Al-Azhar University, in Cairo, and subsequently served in the French Army. He became, however, inspired by the growing Algerian Nationalist movement, and a meeting in Cairo in 1955 with Ben Bella, the leader of the Front de Libération Nationale, the organization controlling resistance to the French within Algeria, caused him to throw in his lot with the rebels.

In 1957 he secretly reentered Algeria, where the revolution was by then in full spate, and soon displayed such ability and keenness in guerrilla operations that by 1958 he had been given the rank of "Colonel" in the "Liberation Army" and was in charge of operations in one of its five "Wilayas", or regions. In 1960 he was appointed Chief of its General Staff and held this position throughout the remainder of the campaign against the French which ended with a ceasefire in March, 1962, after France had, by virtue of the agreements signed at Evian the previous month, promised independence to Algeria.

In June of the same year, in the course of a factional struggle which broke out between the Algerian leaders at the moment of actual independence, he was dismissed from his post by the Provisional President, Colonel Ben Khedda. He continued, however, to control the bulk of the armed forces, and in July, after Algeria had achieved



independence, his support of Ben Bella's cause had turned the scale in favour of the former, who obtained complete control. As a result Boumedienne was that autumn appointed Minister of National Defence in the first independent Algerian Government, and in 1963 became Vice-President of the Revolutionary Council.

Gradually, however, he became disenchanted with Ben Bella's personality and with his Marxism, which conflicted with his own strict Islamic principles; and in 1965, when Ben Bella began to interfere in the Army which had put him in power, Boumedienne ousted him in a bloodless coup d'état and became Prime Minister and President of the Revolutionary Council, though he did not at once take the title of President of the Republic.

A lean, ascetic, and devout bachelor, he formed a complete contrast to his flamboyant predecessor. His manner of fact utterances, however, suited the Algerians better than Ben Bella's grandiloquence, and he soon earned respect by his obvious dedication. His fixed purpose, as became clear, was to transform Algeria at a stroke into a modern, socialistic, and industrialized state. To that end he replaced Ben Bella's foreign Marxist advisers by young Algerian technocrats as a strategy to develop industry but also to reform agriculture and to expand education in order to provide the skilled manpower of which the French departure had left the

country painfully short. In 1971 he carried the process further by nationalizing the French oil interests in the country, and successfully rode out the ensuing bitter clash with the French Government. In 1975 he was visited by President Giscard d'Estaing in a gesture of reconciliation.

In foreign affairs, again in contrast to Ben Bella, he originally adopted a judiciously moderate line, keeping Algeria aloof from the more extreme Middle Eastern or African regimes and avoiding undesirable commitments, especially in regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

During the next years his policies bore fruit. His regime remained authoritarian, but there was little internal friction, and he found no need to change advisers. Moreover, the Communist regime, and especially the exploitation and profitable export of vast reserves of natural gas discovered in the Sahara, brought prosperity; as a result, the educated Algerians developed a sense of purpose and self-confidence in the country's future, which had hitherto been lacking and which augured well for the future. Even a potentially controversial measure of land redistribution introduced early in 1972 was generally accepted.

In 1973 Algeria's growing stature began to be reflected in Boumedienne's influence in the Third World. In September he became Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Association of Non-Aligned States, a position of importance; and in November, following the October war between the Arab States and Israel, he played a leading role in an Arab Summit Conference held in Algiers, at which the lines of Arab policy towards an eventual Middle East settlement were laid down.

In June, 1976, Boumedienne decided to place Algeria under a regular constitutional regime. Following a national charter in June, 1976, this charter was duly approved by referendum in November, 1976, and the following month Boumedienne was elected President. The President of the People's Assembly was duly elected.

From 1973 to 1976 Algeria was elected chairman of the "non-aligned world", and much of its Government's time was taken up with dialogues between the north and south of the area in question until in 1976 it withdrew. Meanwhile, from 1975 onwards the Algerian Government's attention was increasingly absorbed in the conflict which grew up in the former Spanish Sahara, where it supported the indigenous Polisario against the attempts of the Moroccan and

## AMIR ABBAS HOVEYDA

### Victim of change in Iran

Amir Abbas Hoveyda, who was Prime Minister of Iran from 1965 to 1977, was executed in Tehran on April 7 after being convicted of a number of crimes by the Islamic Revolutionary Court. He was 61. He had been dismissed as Prime Minister by the then Shah in August 1977 after criticism in Parliament of the country's food shortages and high inflation.

He was born in Tehran in 1919 and educated in Beirut, Brussels and Paris. In 1942 he entered the diplomatic service, thus following in the footsteps of his father, who had been Iranian Minister to the Lebanon and Saudi Arabia. After a spell as Private Secretary to the then Prime Minister Husein Ali, he became Iranian representative on the United Nations Refugee Commission in Geneva, where he remained during the difficult Musaddiq period in Iran. In 1958 he was recalled to Tehran and given a post in the National Iranian Oil Company, where he remained for the next five years. In 1963 he became Deputy Secretary-General of his friend Ali Mansur's new party, the National Front, and in 1965 was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs in Mansur's first government.

In 1965 Mansur was assassinated and Hoveyda was called upon by the Shah to succeed him. His party was

successful in the 1967 elections, and Hoveyda was re-appointed to the Premiership. He filled his office with considerable ability.

As time went on he found his responsibilities diminished by the Shah's increasing reluctance to delegate authority in important matters. It was he, for example, who settled disputes with Iraq and with certain Persian Gulf States, and he who, on the strength of a dramatic rise in the country's revenues resulting from a quintupling of oil prices, launched an ambitious 5-year plan of economic development. In 1973, however, wearying of the incessant bickering between the two main political parties which mainly concerned with the implementation of the Plan and transferring Hoveyda who had held office for no less than 12 years; to the less important post of Minister of Court.

In November, 1978, Hoveyda was detained by the military government of General Gholamreza Shah, appointed by the Shah. Hoveyda had been caused by opposition leaders at that time for much of the dissatisfaction in the country with the Shah's regime. After the Shah's departure this was not to save him from the Islamic revolutionary court and he was convicted and condemned to death after a trial lasting only a few hours.

been created, included reductions in both industrial and agricultural production, shortages of transport (which in turn led to port-congestion and held up imports), housing, and skilled labour, and led eventually to galloping inflation. In 1976 the Shah replaced Hoveyda as the Party Secretary-General by his principal oil-negotiator, Jamshid Amouzegar, but retained him as Prime Minister.

By 1977, however, popular discontent had reached proportions which could not be ignored; and in August of that year the Shah decided that a new style of government was essential; he therefore reshuffled his Cabinet by dismissing the five Ministers mainly concerned with the implementation of the Plan and transferring Hoveyda who had held office for no less than 12 years; to the less important post of Minister of Court.

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## Mr Edvard Kardelj

Mr Edvard Kardelj, who died on February 10 at the age of 59, was for many years, until his illness a few years ago, considered the most likely successor to Marshal Tito.

A schoolmaster by training who relinquished his profession almost as soon as he got his degree to become a communist revolutionary at the age of 18, Edvard Kardelj belonged to that generation of young communists Tito chose when the Comintern appointed him general secretary of the outlawed Yugoslav Communist Party in 1937. He was in fact the most influential survivor of the inner circle of Tito's war-time partners, the last of the small, tight-knit group of Tito's closest associates, who expressed the innermost circle, the other two, Mr Milovan Djilas and Mr Aleksandar Rankovic, former vice president and police chief, having both been disgraced in 1966. Mr Kardelj had been the second man of Yugoslavia's hierarchy for as long as Tito had been the first.

Quiet and unobtrusive, more at home with theoretical than practical politics, the ideologist of power rather than the man of power, he had been the chief architect of Yugoslavia's brand of socialism. A Slovene by birth, Kardelj was one of those who had been above local national interests and occupied an almost unique position as a man whose national impartiality was beyond dispute.

Outside his own country he was often referred to as the bear of the north. This may not have been entirely true for the simple reason that no single person could ever have Tito's charismatic power or personal authority to hold power on his own. But he was one of the two men, Dr Vladimir Bakarić being the second, who would have had the necessary personal authority to hold power on his own. But he was one of the two men, Dr Vladimir Bakarić being the second, who would have had the necessary personal authority to hold power on his own. But he was one of the two men, Dr Vladimir Bakarić being the second, who would have had the necessary personal authority to hold power on his own.

General Ludvik Svoboda, who died on September 20 at the age of 83, was elected President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in March, 1968, in succession to Antonin Novotny, who had been forced to resign in the Prague Spring of 1968. He held both posts of President and First Secretary of the Communist Party. The two posts were then separated and while Dubček remained, First Secretary Svoboda moved into the Prague castle to take up the office of President.

Under normal circumstances Svoboda could scarcely have hoped to merit such high office. Before the war he was a lieutenant colonel of no particular distinction and achieved fame only after his flight to Poland and later to the Soviet Union, where he formed and led the Czechoslovak military unit which operated under Soviet control. He was appointed Minister of Defence in 1945 to his position as General commanding the Czechoslovak Army Corps, the support of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the good will of the Soviet Union. During the Prague coup d'état he came out in support of the Communists, joined the Party and was president of the Prague - Action Committee

which was responsible for drastic purges of non-Communists in all walks of life. Although this was his post of Deputy Prime Minister in 1950, he was dismissed from his governmental posts the next year, and his political career under the Communist regime seemed to be over. But when in 1968 it was necessary to find a new head of state, he was an acceptable candidate, since he was thought to be neither too much of a Communist nor too little of one, was less compromised than other leading public figures and could pass as one of the unattached victims of the purges of the fifties. Moreover, he was thought to be persona grata with the Soviet regime, thanks to the close relations he had had with the Soviet marshals during the war. Finally he had the advantage of having no ideological baggage, "freedom" in both Russian and Czech.

When he was elected President no one expected much of him. He was thought to be a weak man who would not resist Russian pressure. His initial speeches as president were indeed not so very different from those of Novotny. However, unlike Novotny, he received and feted all classes of people at the castle and gradu-

ally gained in popularity. His quiet bearing during the invasion and immediately afterwards earned him the reputation of a national hero. He was elected a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and a member of its Presidium on August 2, 1968 by the "illegal" congress of the Party which took place in Prague in secret. In his book he wrote: "The idea of a people who have been invaded by an aggressor without a fight is incomprehensible for the Soviet people." And yet this is exactly what he made the Czechoslovak people do after 1968.

The Russians who had expected to find in him a pliant tool, were a little disappointed. At first they wanted to negotiate only with him and to persuade him to take over the First Secretaryship of the Party as well. But Svoboda remained loyal to his colleagues in the Party and the government and insisted on proper constitutional consultations.

But unfortunately Svoboda had not the courage and strength to remain true to the principles which, as president, he had been elected to uphold and it was not long before he

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Neto was not the only Angolan nationalist leader in exile, and for the next decade or more he seemed to be as much concerned with trying to ensure that he and his party would inherit power as he was in striving for independence. During this period the rivalry between Neto and the MPLA on the one hand, and Holden Roberto and the FNLA on the other seriously weakened the independence movement in Angola as a whole, and both parties competed with increasing bitterness for recognition and support by those in Africa and elsewhere who for one reason or another were interested in the future of Angola.

In 1964 Neto paid his first visit to Russia, and he broadened the basis of his support by an audience with the Pope in 1970 and a visit to communist China in the following year.

Realizing that the rivalry between the MPLA and the FNLA not only weakened the nationalist effort but opened the way to outside intervention in the African continent, bodies like the Afro-Asian conference and the Organization for African Unity tried several times to reconcile the opposing factions, and in 1972 Neto and Holden Roberto agreed to set up a united liberation headquarters in Kinshasa and a

## Dr Antonio Neto

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joint Angolan government in exile with Roberto as titular head but effective control vested in Neto as commander of its military forces.

The reconciliation proved to be superficial. Although the Portuguese authorities eventually negotiated the terms of independence for Angola with the three main nationalist leaders, the birth of independent Angola in November 1975 was the signal for the establishment of two rival republics and the intensification of the fighting which had already broken out between the rival leaders and their supporters, with the FNLA and UNITA led by Jonas Savimbi, leading an applied service and mercenaries on neighbouring black and white African neighbours, and Neto and the MPLA becoming more and more dependent on arms and mercenaries from Cuba and the Soviet Union. By the spring of 1976 Neto had gained the upper hand, and he paid official visits to Cuba and to Russia to thank them for their help. In 1977 Neto achieved the international recognition and respectability he needed by getting Angola admitted to the United Nations, and with this rise crossed he started the process of mending his political and economic bridges with those in Africa and elsewhere who had supported his rivals during his long drawn out rise to power.

In June 1978 Neto signed an agreement covering mutual aid and friendship with President Eanes of Portugal and in August visited President Mobutu of Zaïre who had backed FNLA and UNITA in the Angolan civil war. Ways of improving relations between the two countries were discussed. The exact strength and influence of Mr Savimbi's UNITA movement and the chances of his fulfilling his aim to force Neto and the MPLA to negotiate with him remained hard to assess.

## GENERAL LUDVIK SVOBODA

### Anti-climax for national pride

General Ludvik Svoboda, who died on September 20 at the age of 83, was elected President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in March, 1968, in succession to Antonin Novotny, who had been forced to resign in the Prague Spring of 1968. He held both posts of President and First Secretary of the Communist Party. The two posts were then separated and while Dubček remained, First Secretary Svoboda moved into the Prague castle to take up the office of President.

Under normal circumstances Svoboda could scarcely have hoped to merit such high office. Before the war he was a lieutenant colonel of no particular distinction and achieved fame only after his flight to Poland and later to the Soviet Union, where he formed and led the Czechoslovak military unit which operated under Soviet control. He was appointed Minister of Defence in 1945 to his position as General commanding the Czechoslovak Army Corps, the support of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the good will of the Soviet Union. During the Prague coup d'état he came out in support of the Communists, joined the Party and was president of the Prague - Action Committee

which was responsible for drastic purges of non-Communists in all walks of life. Although this was his post of Deputy Prime Minister in 1950, he was dismissed from his governmental posts the next year, and his political career under the Communist regime seemed to be over. But when in 1968 it was necessary to find a new head of state, he was an acceptable candidate, since he was thought to be neither too much of a Communist nor too little of one, was less compromised than other leading public figures and could pass as one of the unattached victims of the purges of the fifties. Moreover, he was thought to be persona grata with the Soviet regime, thanks to the close relations he had had with the Soviet marshals during the war. Finally he had the advantage of having no ideological baggage, "freedom" in both Russian and Czech.

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was proposing the dismissal of Dubcek and his replacement by Husak, whom he praised, or that he was justifying the Soviet invasion in public in the Soviet Union. He was no doubt supremely unhappy with developments in his country and contemplated resignation many times, but he probably hoped that by staying he might be able to prevent the worst happening.

Svoboda was a man who would screw his courage to a stick but not to the sticking point.

He was re-elected President in 1973 but was later several times in hospital and was succeeded as president by Dr Husak in 1975.

The same could not be said of his wife and family. Mr Svoboda spent almost the whole war in Czechoslovakia in hiding and working for the resistance. At a crucial moment of Svoboda's talks in Moscow in 1968 he is said to have hung his head and received the order not to give in. His son was caught and killed by a lethal injection made on him by an SS "doctor" on March 7, 1942, at the age of 17. Svoboda learnt of the death during the heaviest fighting of the DUKLA campaign.

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## Sir Milo Butler

Sir Milo Butler, CMC, CVO, whose death at the age of 72 was reported on January 26, was the first Bahamian Governor-General of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. He was sworn in as Governor-General on August 1, 1973, at a public ceremony in Rawson Square in the centre of Nassau, but, after he had suffered a severe stroke, the Acting Governor-General Sir Gerald Cash was appointed from the spring of 1976 to the end of his term in 1977.

Born in Nassau on August 11, 1906, to George Raleigh and Frances Butler, he was educated in the Bahamas and in Florida. He was a large man, with a reputation for toughness and bluntness, and he made no bones of his dislike of the white domination of political and economic life in the Bahamas in all but the last ten or so years of his lifetime.

His entry into political life came early, and in 1936 he ran against the late Sir Barry Oakes for a seat in the House of Assembly, but was defeated. The following year he ran again against another candidate at a by-election, and won. This was at a time when there were no political parties in the Bahamas, and he was unopposed in the 1942 elections, but lost his seat in 1949.

In 1956 he joined forces with the emerging Progressive Liberal Party, which had been founded three years previously, and which identified itself strongly with the aspirations of the black majority, and was successful at the polls, being returned as the representative of the Western District in New Providence.

The next ten years were to be stormy ones in the Bahamas, as the political ascendancy of the white merchant class, the Bay Street Boys in Nassau and their supporters in Parliament from the "Our Islands" was vigorously challenged. The habitual deference of much of the black population had to be shattered if the PLP was to win a majority, and in one incident, the Leader of the PLP and Prime Minister, Mr Findling, seized the mace and hung it from the window of the Chamber. Butler picked up the mace from the floor of the Chamber and it too followed the mace into the street.

In 1967, the PLP won by a very narrow margin, and Milo Butler, now representing Bain's Town, was appointed Minister of Health and Welfare, where he rapidly gained a reputation as a dynamic administrator. After the General Election of 1968, his portfolio was expanded to include Agriculture and Fisheries.

At the next General Election, in September, 1972, the Progressive Liberal Party's position was by now clearly unassailable, as it received a majority of 25 out of the 38 seats in the House of Assembly. The Prime Minister, Mr Findling, announced that he proposed to advise the Queen to appoint Milo Butler Governor-General of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas following independence. For some months the Governor-General designate remained in the Cabinet as Minister without Portfolio. He resigned from the Cabinet and the House of Assembly on June 10, 1973, a knighthood was conferred on June 13, and he was sworn in as Governor-General on August 1, 1973, in Rawson Square.

Butler was a very successful merchant and businessman outside public life. He started with a small dry-goods store in Nassau, and made a great success of it, and the family holdings eventually encompassed

supermarkets, a funeral home, and the only crematorium in the Bahamas. A fundamentalist Christian in his religion, he was much given to quotations from the Bible. He had no great sense of humour, and indeed took himself very seriously, a trait which extended to politics, especially in the struggle with the white ascendancy.

He was married to the former Caroline Lorente Watson of Morrisville, Long Island, Bahamas; Butler was the father of 10 children, seven sons and three daughters.

## Mr Yilma Deressa

Yilma Deressa, a former Foreign Minister of Ethiopia, died on January 28 at the age of 71. He was born in 1904, an unlikely most prominent Ethiopian, of Galla and not of Amhara race — and was educated at the Menelik School in Addis Ababa, at Victoria College Alexandria, at the London School of Economics, and at the University of the Ethiopian Foreign Office.

Captured by the Italians when they occupied Ethiopia in 1936, he was sent to Italy, where he remained until after the liberation of Ethiopia in 1941. Returning to his country, he was in 1942 appointed to the Ministry of Finance, of which he

became Vice-Minister in 1943, and in 1949 was promoted to be Minister of Commerce and Industry. In 1953 he was sent to the United States in the dual capacity of Ambassador in Washington and Head of the Ethiopian Delegation to the United Nations. His command of English and the graceful charm of his wife Elizabeth, daughter of a former Foreign Minister, Dr Marcin, were assets in both these posts, which he held for the next five years; and when in 1958 he was recalled to Addis Ababa it was to become Foreign Minister in a Cabinet headed by his predecessor Akilou Habte-Wold.

The assignment was not an easy one, for his Prime Minister had for many years been the architect of Ethiopian foreign policy and could hardly be expected to relinquish his position of chief adviser to the Emperor in this field. It was therefore no surprise when in 1960 Deressa was transferred to the Ministry of Finance, a post for which he had a particular liking in view of his economic training.

In 1969 he was again transferred, this time to take charge of the Ministries of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism; and in 1971 he was appointed to the Emperor's Crown Council, an honorary post carrying with it a certain standing. In 1974, however, he was arrested and imprisoned early in the insurrection which ended with the deposition of the Emperor, and spent the rest of his life in forced residence.



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# The fighting man in other aspects

## ACM Lord Bandon

Air Chief Marshal the Earl of Bandon, GBE, CB, CVO, DSO, died on February 3 at the age of 75.

Percy Ronald Gardner Bernard, fifth Earl of Bandon, Baron Bandon, Viscount Bandon, Viscount Bernard of Castle Bernard, co Cork in the Peerage of Ireland, succeeded to his titles from his cousin in 1924. He was educated at Wellington College and joined the newly formed Royal Air Force College at Cranwell in 1924.

He was a brilliant pilot and after flying duty in the Middle East, he qualified as a flying instructor. Those were the halcyon days of a young and daring pilot. Bandon quickly showed that he was built in just this mould. His pupils began to get quite used to the knowledge that Bandon was not going to let them down. He was a very good pilot and a very good instructor. He was a very good officer and a very good commander. He was a very good man and a very good friend.

When the Second World War began, Bandon was serving in the Royal Air Force. He was a very good pilot and a very good instructor. He was a very good officer and a very good commander. He was a very good man and a very good friend.

His next appointment was as Commander of the Royal Observer Corps which many took to be a back-number, but Bandon quickly dispelled any such notion by displaying his energy to making an all out tour of his area of responsibility which covered, of course, the whole of Great Britain. He did much to boost morale and by meeting such a wide section of the civilian population did much to enhance the prestige of the Royal Air Force. This was an appointment that he loved perhaps best of all in his career, as it gave him the opportunity to work with bank-clerks and crofters, and he adored people.

He then went to the Imperial Defence College (where he was a tutor) at a lecture in which he was very successful in becoming AOC No 2 Group which was then in Germany. He returned from Germany to take command of No 11 (Fighter) Group where his command was very successful. After a spell as CVO, he was again controlled by Bandon over Odham and 650 aircraft took part. For his part in this he was made an Air Officer in the Air Ministry as Assistant Chief of Air Staff in charge of training. He was appointed again to Germany as Commander of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, and on leaving was created a KBE. He then went in as Commander in Chief of the Far East Air Force with his headquarters in Singapore. During his period of command he had two major responsibilities—apart, that is, from the normal heavy responsibility of a commander in chief; they were as Military Adviser to SEATO, which brought him into contact with Australia, New Zealand, the United States and France; and, secondly, the establishment of the RAF staging post at Gan Bandon appreciated the strategic importance of Gan and forced his way through the difficulties of the situation. He even went so far, on one occasion, as to air-lift troops from Singapore in his own transport aircraft when an invasion of the island was imminent. He omitted to inform Whitehall of what he had done and, although his action saved the situation,

## MAJOR BILL TILMAN Explorer, mountaineer and soldier

Major Harold William ("Bill") Tilman, whose loss at sea was confirmed on April 15, 1979, was decorated for bravery in both World Wars and became a mountaineer and an explorer before taking also to the sea in small boats.

He was born on February 14, 1898, educated at Berkhamsted School and at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. He was commissioned in the Royal Artillery in July 1915, and served throughout the First World War on the Western Front, winning the Military Cross and Bar. In 1919 he went to Kenya as a coffee planter, and the next ten years were perhaps the most uneventful period of a long life of adventure. In 1930, with a view to becoming a mountaineer, he joined the Alpine Club with his fellow soldier, Eric Shipton, and together they made the first traverse of the twin peaks of Mount Kenya. In 1934 Tilman accompanied Shipton to the Central Himalaya, where one of their objects was to show that elaborate and costly organizations were not required for Himalayan expeditions, a matter on which both men felt strongly. Five months in the field resulted in the first exploration of the Nanda Devi basin and two crossings of the Ganges watershed at a total cost of £285, including their return passage to India.

Tilman was on the 1935 Everest Reconnaissance, but although he reached the summit of 17 out of the 26 high peaks climbed by that expedition, he was considered to have been a failure. He was again in the full-scale attempt of 1936. He took his own expedition to Nanda Devi in the same year, however, proving the experts wrong when he and N. E. Odell reached the summit (25,600ft). For the next twenty years he was more often at sea than ashore, bringing back useful information on ice and weather conditions, and on wild life in both southern and northern latitudes.

In 1964-65 Tilman skipped the "Paraneta", which carried the South Indian Ocean Expedition from Australia to Heard Island. "Mischief" was succeeded by another cutter, "Sea Breeze", which took Tilman to Greenland before foundering off Angmagssalik in 1972; and in a third, "Baroque", he made voyages to east and west Greenland, Spitsbergen and Ellesmere Island.

Bill Tilman's last voyage was in the "En Avant", skippered by Simon Richardson who had earned high praise as a member of "Baroque's" crew. "En Avant" was a cutter, energetic and knowledgeable. This was another Tilman-type adventure, a small crew in a small boat, bound for Smith Island in the South Shetlands to climb and study the geology. Tilman left England in the summer of 1977, and the last seen of them was as they sailed out of Rio de Janeiro. His death is not presumed until April 1979.

Tilman's eminence as a mountain explorer was recognized by the award of the Royal Geographical Society's Founder's Medal for 1952, and his sailing exploits earned him the Blue Water Medal of the Cruising Club of America and the Goldsmith Award of the Royal Cruising Club. In 1954

the Turks in whose Empire they dwelt, had been claiming the right to manage their affairs. After the First World War, when they found themselves divided between Turkey, Iran and Iraq, those in Iraq were ridden on a tight rein by the British authorities; but from 1932 a drive by the now independent Iraqi Government to assert authority over them provoked an immediate reaction of which Mulla Mustafa became the unquestioned leader. British military intervention, however, enabled the Iraqi forces to defeat his warriors and he and his brother Ahmad were placed in forced residence at Sulaymaniyah where they remained for the next eight years.

In 1943 Mulla Mustafa escaped from Sulaymaniyah and returned to Barzan, where the Iraqi Government patched up a peace with him and tried to contain his forces. But the irrepressible lawlessness of the Kurds soon caused a new breach and further Iraqi military intervention; and in 1946, when a Soviet-sponsored Republic was proclaimed in the Mahabid in Iran, Mulla Mustafa led some ten thousand of his followers across the frontier to join it and was at once appointed Commander-in-Chief of its armed forces. Within a year he and his men were back in Barzan, having prudently withdrawn before Iranian forces advancing to liquidate the short-lived Republic; but the Iraqi Government's attitude towards him soon convinced him that there was no safety for him in Iraq either, and a few hundred followers he again left Barzan, crossed a corner of Iran and joined the Iranian forces sent to intercept him, and took refuge in Soviet Russia. Here he remained for the next 12 years.

In 1958, when the Iraqi Monarchy was overthrown by a revolution, Mulla Mustafa had no time in negotiating the new President, General Kassim, for permission to return to Kurdistan, which was granted.

In 1960 Mulla Mustafa became President of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, the main Kurdish political organization, although his relations with it were never easy as it was largely composed of town-dwellers. In 1962 he was elected deputy director of Munitions Inspection. He held the post until some months after the end of hostilities, when he gave his contract with the Imperial Tobacco Co. to the Government. He played an important part in the development and expansion of the company and in the course of only a few years mastered completely every detail of the tobacco industry.

When the Second World War came, Mulla Mustafa was already a member of the Prime Minister's Advisory Panel of Industrialists, was called to the War Office and asked to take the post of Director-General of Production, which he filled with distinction until 1942. Throughout he was also a member of the Supply Council, and for most of the time he was Deputy for the Minister of Production on the Combined Production and Resources Board at Washington during the crucial period between 1942 and 1943 and in the latter year was made Chief Executive of the Ministry of Production. He was subsequently delegated for important work at the Board of Trade and remained there until November, 1945, when he took up the active threads of his duties with the Imperial Tobacco Co, becoming chairman in 1947.

He received an honorary LLD from St. Andrews University and was made CBE in 1973. He wrote fifteen books about his travels. With even this bare outline of his life of adventure, there is no need to emphasise Tilman's courage, determination and hardihood. He was an ascetic, though certainly no prig, and his natural reticence made him shun sentimentality. His apparent disdain of the softer sides of life often gave the impression that he was intolerant and lacked feeling, but those who knew him well could bear witness to the basic kindness of his nature.

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His final appointment before he retired from the Royal Air Force was as Commander, Allied Air Forces Central Europe. Here he played a prominent part in helping the German Air Force to reestablish itself and his excellent relations with the United States Air Force were ripe for continuing co-operation from that mighty force.

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His next appointment was as Commander of the Royal Observer Corps which many took to be a back-number, but Bandon quickly dispelled any such notion by displaying his energy to making an all out tour of his area of responsibility which covered, of course, the whole of Great Britain. He did much to boost morale and by meeting such a wide section of the civilian population did much to enhance the prestige of the Royal Air Force. This was an appointment that he loved perhaps best of all in his career, as it gave him the opportunity to work with bank-clerks and crofters, and he adored people.

He then went to the Imperial Defence College (where he was a tutor) at a lecture in which he was very successful in becoming AOC No 2 Group which was then in Germany. He returned from Germany to take command of No 11 (Fighter) Group where his command was very successful. After a spell as CVO, he was again controlled by Bandon over Odham and 650 aircraft took part. For his part in this he was made an Air Officer in the Air Ministry as Assistant Chief of Air Staff in charge of training. He was appointed again to Germany as Commander of the 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, and on leaving was created a KBE. He then went in as Commander in Chief of the Far East Air Force with his headquarters in Singapore. During his period of command he had two major responsibilities—apart, that is, from the normal heavy responsibility of a commander in chief; they were as Military Adviser to SEATO, which brought him into contact with Australia, New Zealand, the United States and France; and, secondly, the establishment of the RAF staging post at Gan Bandon appreciated the strategic importance of Gan and forced his way through the difficulties of the situation. He even went so far, on one occasion, as to air-lift troops from Singapore in his own transport aircraft when an invasion of the island was imminent. He omitted to inform Whitehall of what he had done and, although his action saved the situation,

he received an enormous reprimand from the British Division. He promptly had the signal framed and hung it on the wall of his office!

## SIR IAN FREELAND Testing time in Ulster

Lieutenant-General Sir Ian Freeland, GBE, KCB, DSO, who died on July 2 at the age of 66, was a member of the GOC Northern Ireland from 1969 to 1971, during a period when relations between Protestants and Catholics were steadily deteriorating, and when British troops in increasing numbers were employed in helping to keep the peace between the two factions. The Northern Ireland garrison when Freeland took over command in July 1969 totalled less than 1,000, but at its peak in June of the following year, just prior to the Orange celebrations of July 12, it had risen to over 7,000. Ireland has proved to be the graveyard of many British generals' reputations, but Freeland survived, a particularly testing time with his reputation unimpaired. This was due to his personal qualities and political "feel", but also to the staunch support he received from London.

He was born on September 12, 1912, the son of Major General Sir E. E. Freeland. After education at Wellington College and Sandhurst he was commissioned into the Norfolk Regiment in 1932, and was adjutant of his battalion in 1940. During the war he filled a succession of staff and regimental appointments, receiving his DSO for command of the 7th Norfolk in the Normandy bridgehead. He later commanded the 5th Queen's. After the war he was instructed at the Staff College, commanded the 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in the Middle East, and the 2nd Infantry Brigade in B.A.O.R. His reputation stood high in the Army and there was some surprise when, on promotion to Major-General in 1961, he was given a Territorial

instead of a Regular Division. It was, however, Freeland's own Territorial Division, 54th East Anglian, which probably compensated for any disappointment he might otherwise have felt.

From Colchester he went to Nairobi, to a Kenya on the brink of independence, and was the last holder of the appointment of GOC East Africa. He handled a potentially difficult situation with skill and imagination, and was made Vice-Adjutant-General on his return in 1964. He held this post for three years before being given another step in rank as DCS in April 1968.

This appointment lapsed in less than six months as a result of the decision to abolish the Deputy Chiefs of Staff in all three Services, a retrograde step in the view of many. Freeland was then appointed to succeed Lieutenant-General Sir Ian Harris as GOC Northern Ireland. He took over what had hitherto been regarded as a pleasant military backwater only to discover that he had inherited a maelstrom. He had hardly arrived before London sent him a message that the shooting of Daniel O'Hagan in Belfast was quick to follow and soon the whole of Ulster became an armed camp. Freeland was hailed as a hero by the Protestants as the deliverer but they were soon exasperating him because he strongly recommended the disbandment of their private army, the "B Specials". The Catholics were equally loud in their abuse after the shooting of Daniel O'Hagan in Belfast on the night of July 31, 1970. He was also in trouble as a result of a television interview in which he said, in reply

to a question, that the Army's patience was not inexhaustible and that force might have to be met by force. Freeland personally believed that his dismissal was inevitable, however honest his statement, but much to their credit the Prime Minister, Mr. Wilson, and the Home Secretary, Mr. Callaghan, rallied firmly to his support. He was criticised again later for over-cursing against trouble in June 1970, when massive reinforcements were sent temporarily to Northern Ireland to guard against the trouble anticipated from the traditional Orange marches on July 12, and also from Miss Bernadette Devlin's release from prison. In the event everything passed off quietly—almost, certainly, because of the precautions taken on Freeland's advice.

In normal circumstances Freeland might have expected to remain three years in Northern Ireland. However he felt strongly that no soldier should have to spend more than two years struggling to cope with a situation which he once described as the "negation of hope". Accordingly he asked to be relieved in June 1971 and thereafter retired from the Army. He had shown himself to be both robust and skilful, not least in his dealings with Stormont and the RUC. He was a capable rather than a popular commander.

Freeland married in 1940 Mary, the daughter of General Sir Clement Armitage, a former Massena General in the Ordnance in 1940, and had two sons and a daughter. He was Deputy Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment, a Cavalier of the Order of the Crown (Belgium), and he also held the Belgian Croix de Guerre.

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## General Maurice Challe

General Maurice Challe, the French air force officer who led the generals' revolt in Algeria in 1961, which for a few days challenged the Algerian policy and authority of General de Gaulle, died in Paris on January 19. He was 73.

## Major C. Draper

Major Christopher Draper, DSC, the former First World War pilot who became known as the "mad major" for his feats in flying under Thames bridges, has died at the age of 86.

Draper, who served in the celebrated "Naval 8" Squadron, RNAS, during the First World War, first came to public notice when he flew an aircraft through Tower Bridge and under Westminster Bridge in 1931. For this exploit he was bound over to keep the peace for 13 months.

In 1953 at the age of 61 he far surpassed this feat when he flew under 15 River Thames bridges between Blackfriars and Kew. On this occasion he was fined 10 guineas. On both occasions he was said to be unemployed and seeking work. When, at the age of 72, his flying licence was withdrawn for medical reasons Draper had flown over 17,000 hours in 73 types of aircraft.



In that capacity he played a leading part in cooperation with Sheikh Hafiz Wahba, the Arabian Minister in London, in establishing close and friendly

After his release from the Arabian Hall entered the Egyptian civil service, was posted at the Ministry of Finance, and employed there until, under the reconstruction scheme, he became in 1921 an assistant principal in the Colonial Office, where he worked in the Middle East Department on the affairs of Iraq. In 1923 he was promoted Principal, and in 1922 Principal. At this period and during the ten years which succeeded it he was on various occasions accredited representative to the Permanent Mandates Commission. From 1929 to 1932 he was a member of the British delegation to the League of Nations, and in 1932 to the Foreign Office he was appointed in the following year to be Chief Secretary to the Government of Palestine, where he remained until 1937. He was then transferred to be British Resident in Zanzibar, served there for three years, and in 1940 was three years Governor and C-in-C, Aden. In 1944 he was promoted to the governorship

Sir Austin Strutt, KCVÖ, CB, a former Deputy Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, who died on May 29 at the age of 76, was one of an outstanding generation of civil servants who rapidly absorbed, and passed on, the finest traditions of public service in Britain.

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**EX-SERVICES**  
**MENTAL WELFARE SOCIETY**

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**Mr James  
Margach**

from Aberdeen to join it, and he kept his numberless political friendships warm until the end. During more than 40 years he was the confidant of 11 Prime

**Col A. H.  
Maude**

He joined the Army in 1909 and was mobilized as a 2nd London Division port and supply

On the outbreak of war in 1939 he was appointed Assistant Director of Supplies and Transport at the headquarters of the

**Mr W. A.  
Darlington**

while convalescing, to supplement his diet. His diet consisted mainly of French, TitBits, and Show. His form

**Mr J. B.  
Morton**

A convert to the Roman Catholic Church, an infantryman who emerged from the ordeal of trench warfare unembittered and free from cynicism, he went through life an uncompromising believer in traditional good values, not caring a fig if they were out of fashion. For half a century he delighted in being thought a square by those whom he despised. Best remembered as "Beachcomber" of the Daily

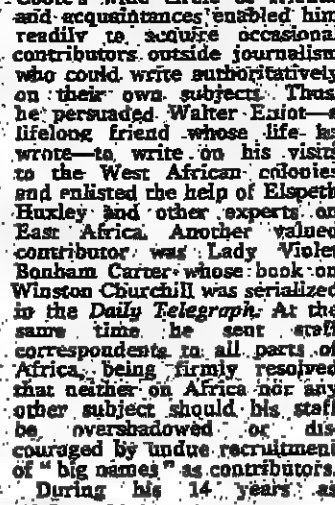
**Mr H. V.  
Morton**

born in 1892, the child of parents who were both writers and who apparently advised him against taking up writing as a profession. In spite of the warning, he published his first articles at the age of 18, when he joined the editorial staff of the *Birmingham Gazette and Express*. Two years later, in 1912, he was appointed assistant editor. He then went to London and was a sub-editor on the *Daily Mail* for a year before

MR

to the Middle East produced similarly attractive books entitled *In the Steps of the Master* (1934), *In the Steps of St Paul* (1936), *Through the Lands of the Bible* (1938), and so on. During the war years 1939-45 Morton employed his descriptive talents to good purpose and was not unwilling

**SIR COLIN COOTE**  
Politics from the editor's chair



He saw active service in France and Italy, was wounded, gassed, and awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in 1918.

Meanwhile, in 1917, he was elected at 24 as the youngest member of the House of Commons. An able debater, he was known at first as a pacifist-opponent of the war, and unable to go to terms with the Conservative party organization in the House of Commons, he resigned in 1918.

At the end of 1923 Coote was appointed Rome correspondent of *The Times*. He remained in Italy for three years, a period during which he witnessed and saw the rise to power of Mussolini. In such stirring scenes of those days as the fall of the Fascist regime, his work on Rome his dispatches were always vividly descriptive.

**MR FRANK OWEN**  
Lively Fleet Street character

Mr Oliver Stallybrass died on November 28 last year. Born in 1925, he was educated at Winchester and at Cambridge where he took his degree in English. He qualified in librarianship at the University of London, and for twelve years was on the staff of the London Library, for the last

the book trade itself which Oliver Stallybrass did not abandon. Librarian, journal editor (he briefly edited the proceedings of the Royal Institution of Great Britain), and translator, were only three of his skills. He worked in publishing as an editor with Becker & Warburg and with

**Mr Eric  
Ceadel**

In 1946 Cudde married Pamela Mary Perkins. They had three sons.

**Mr G. B.  
Parrack**

**Obituaries from "The Times"**  
1951-1975

A three volume series of reprinted obituaries from "The Times" is currently available from Newspaper Archive Developments Ltd. (a publishing division of Times Newspapers Ltd.). These handsome volumes provide a classic source of biographical detail on the great lives of the twentieth century, and serves to fill deaths occurring during the period of publication. The

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## Obituaries Supplement

## Links with culture and education

SIR THOMAS KENDRICK  
Keeper of British Museum

Sir Thomas Kendrick, KCB, FBA, FSA, who was Director and Principal Librarian of the British Museum from 1950 to 1959, died on November 2.

Thomas Kendrick was born in 1895. He went to Charterhouse, where he was on the classical side, and then to Oriel College, Oxford. He had been up for only a year when the war came and he immediately enlisted; he returned in 1918 and took a diploma in anthropology with distinction. His war service saw him a captain in the Warwickshire Regiment. He was severely wounded in the leg and arm but never afterwards allowed his lameness to interfere with an active life or a passion for fishing.

He joined the Department of British and Medieval Antiquities of the British Museum after the war and became its Keeper in 1938. At that time he was much interested in museum display and introduced innovations in the use of colour, transparent materials and other modern techniques. At the same time he was among the first scholars to make full use of colour photography; his splendid series of Anglo-Saxon jewellery, painted and etched, caused many admirers among

his learned and austere audiences.

It was fortunate that the magnificent Anglo-Saxon treasure from Sutton Hoo came to the department during his curatorship. Although it arrived in 1945 in time to be immediately returned underground, Kendrick was responsible for its fine post-war display.

When, however, he was appointed Director and Principal Librarian of the Museum in 1950, his policy was conservative but was always in line with the revolutionary movements that were turning many Continental and American museums into centres of popular enlightenment. He was referred to keep to the tradition of Bloomsbury as an institution maintained first and foremost for scholars and connoisseurs. Nevertheless, during the decade he was in command there, the Museum continued a slow emergence from its wartime plight and became a pleasant, more enjoyable place to visit.

In the scope of his interests Tom Kendrick belonged to the eighteenth century rather than the twentieth. His books covered an extraordinary range of subjects between Eoliths and the Lisbon earthquake. Nor did he avoid such bitterly controversial matters as the history and meaning of Druidism. His

early responsibilities at Bloomsbury museum, and his history and prehistoric studies, but a growing distaste for what he called the stones and bones of archaeology led him towards later periods.

His greatest and most lasting enthusiasm was for Anglo-Saxon art and its relationship with that of Roman and Celtic Britain. There are elsewhere his ideas sometimes proved wrong but were always seminal. Among other enterprises in this field he conducted a survey of stone crosses and was probably never happier than when in the company of a few kindred spirits he made forays into the country in pursuit of these and other more obscure remains of Anglo-Saxon sculpture. This work and the provocative opinions arising from it found expression in *Anglo-Saxon Art to A.D. 900* (1938) and *Anglo-Saxon and Viking Art* (1949).

Another realm of study that had a great appeal to Kendrick's brilliant but slightly wayward imagination was early Antiquarianism. His interest here covered all Europe, but in particular he was fascinated by the medieval legends which told of the settlement of Britain by the sons of King Arthur. The



later embroideries added to this legend and its involvement with Tudor patriotism made the theme of one of the most delightful of all his books—*British Antiquity*. After this the psychological and religious outcome of the Lisbon earthquake suddenly seized upon his mind and obsessed him until he had published the story as he saw it.

It was characteristic of the man that while he moved from subject to subject, probably hoping to shock scholars and scientists of the narrower kind, he always devoted the whole of

himself to the new quest, travelling, reading and writing with high preoccupation. As he was a gifted writer and speaker full of sparkle and imagination, he was able to share his enthusiasm with an eager audience. Among his later books was a novel *Great Love for Icons* (1962), a graceful story about boyhood.

In middle life he came to know a number of painters and their friends; this, perhaps, was the society he most enjoyed. For a time, too, he was caught up with the fashion for the Victorian taste, the opportunist of a relative enabling him to finish a part of his house with curious Victoriana. Among his most interesting was the earnest collecting of bus tickets. He was clubbable rather than domestic, but his normal charming sociability was subject to occasional reactions when he might quickly give offence.

Kendrick was a fellow of the British Academy and of the Society of Antiquaries, an honorary fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, and had received honorary degrees from Durham, Oxford and Dublin. He married Helen Kiek, an excellent pianist, and after her death in 1955, Katharine Wrigley. He had one daughter by his first marriage.

EARL OF ROSSE  
National Trust and charities

The Earl of Rosse, KBE, died on July 1, at the age of 72. As someone wrote "He maintained his ancestors' distinctive absence from the Irish sporting field; he neither rode, nor fished, nor shot, but his contribution to various branches of culture and the preservation of old and beautiful things and the creation of new ones was not slight. One of his forebears, the third earl, was a distinguished astronomer and sometime President of the Royal Society, the fourth was also an FRS and his younger brother was Sir Charles Parsons, OM, FRS, inventor of the steam turbine.

The late Earl—the sixth—gave a great deal of his time to the activities of such bodies as the Standing Commission on the Environment and the National Council for the Dendrology Society, and the Georgian Group of all of which bodies he had been chairman; the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, and the Friends of the National Collections of Ireland and he had sat on many advisory bodies in both England and Ireland.

He had a comprehensive knowledge of trees and shrubs and his garden in the more advantageously displayed than

at Birr Castle, co. Offaly, where his judicious development of the garden was wide admiration. In this his talents and taste were joined to those of his wife, Anne, a daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Leonard Messel, whose father, L. E. W. L. Messel, created the remarkable garden, Nymps, in Sussex, which Colonel Messel enlarged and improved and which is now National Trust property.

The late Lord Rosse was deputy chairman of the National Trust from 1961 to 1976 and of the many charities to which he devoted his time the Trust must have been the one which meant most to him. His service extended back over many years and from the trust's point of view it could be said that few, if any, in its history contributed more to it, nor served it for a longer period. He was elected a member of the Council in 1948; in 1949 he was already a member of the historic buildings committee and in 1955 on the retirement of Lord Escher, he became its chairman. He guided it with a sure knowledge of the Trust's aims and purposes and a clear understanding of its integrity. When as a result of the changes brought about by the Benson Report he took over in 1969 the chairmanship of the newly

constituted properties committee, comprising elements of the former historic buildings and estates committees, he was by his knowledge of gardens, of woodlands and of estate management as ideally suited to guide it as he was to lead the more architecturally orientated historic buildings committee.

The Trust owes much to his skill as a mediator. He was ideally equipped for dealing with the government officials and local councillors with whom the Trust often has relations and on occasion finds itself at odds. His manner was conciliatory, persuasive and firm and his background was impeccable. When war broke out in 1939, Lord Rosse joined the Irish Guards and later served in the Normandy campaign with the Guards' Armoured Division, being made MBE in 1943. With Colonel E. R. Hill he was the author of *The Story of the Guards' Armoured Division* 1941-45.

He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dublin from 1949 to 1965 and since that year Pro-Chancellor. He was an honorary FRIBA, and honorary LL.D. of the universities of Belfast and Dublin and a member of many learned societies, both Irish and foreign. He was made KBE in 1974 for services to the arts.

## Mr A. Chenevix-Trench

Mr Anthony Chenevix-Trench, who was headmaster of Eton from 1964 to 1970, and since 1971 headmaster of Eton College, died on November 21 at the age of 60. He was born on May 10, 1910, at Eton, where he was educated at Eton and then at Christ Church, Oxford. He served in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War and was captured in Singapore in 1942, pending the remainder of the war in captivity. In 1948 he became an assistant master at Eton and in 1955 was appointed headmaster of Eton College. He was a member of the Robbins Committee on Higher Education from 1961. His stewardship of Eton was marked by the abolition of a number of traditions including compulsory Sunday Chapel and the Eton collar and jacket, and by the introduction of a compulsory scholarship subject as another casualty of his period of rule. He retired from the post in 1970 to move to Eton College, where he was a scholar at Lincoln College, Oxford, where he obtained a second in History in 1911. He then joined the Eton staff, but though qualified and never called "interdict" he was a characteristically social type, he became head of a boarding-house in Eton and on his departure from Eton he was transferred to the RNVR. For the rest of the war he was mainly served as an AB in a North Sea destroyer. On demobilisation he was appointed history tutor and bursar at Eton College, Oxford, and for more than 30 years thereafter the Hall remained his abiding interest and the scene of his immensely successful administrative activity. In 1920 he became Vice-Principal, and from 1929 to 1955 was Principal. In those years the Hall ceased to be a tiny community, little more than a boarding-house, and came to rival the colleges in numbers, academic and sporting successes, and also in prestige. It was Eton who lay behind this expansion. The principal of the Hall, who then infused the place, derived directly from him. Simultaneously he was rebuilding the Hall's finances, restoring its buildings and incorporating and creating new ones, and fostering high standards among the undergraduates. In 1937 he succeeded in getting two important statutes approved on transferring the site and the appointment of the principal from Queen's College, which had held it since the sixteenth century, to trustees, and the other giving the Hall a new constitution, which while more liberal than the one it superseded, deliberately stopped short of collegiate status.

## Sir Peter Venables

Sir Peter Venables, FRIC, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Aston from 1966 to 1969, died on November 17 at the age of 74. His career mapped several ages in the recent development of advanced technological education in Britain. A chemist by training, with a first class degree from the University of Liverpool, he held a series of posts in major technical colleges in the 1930s before becoming, in 1941, principal of the Municipal College, Southend, from there he moved to be principal of the Royal Technical College, Salford (now the University of Salford) before taking up his post at the Birmingham College of Technology (in 1956) was designated College of Advanced Technology. Ten years later, following the Robbins Report, the A.T. achieved university status and the Birmingham College received its Royal Charter as a University of Aston. Peter Venables did more than tend in the wake of the institutions he served; he was a pioneer among his professional colleagues; cautious, astute and ambitious, but always concerned for the larger implications of policy, and for the development of technical education as a whole as well as the particular institution in which he happened to be associated. He was a leading member of the Council of the Association of Technical Institutions and President in 1953-54, when important national decisions were being taken about technical education. He maintained a consistent unimpaired to applied science and "useful" education, and believed that this was best served by giving colleges, most of which came directly under the control of local authorities, as maximum autonomy compatible with their public service role.

In 1969 he took on the chairmanship of the Planning Committee for the Open University, co-opting from Lady Lee of Ashridge what, at that stage,

was regarded as the risky assignment of turning a brilliant idea into a practical reality. He undertook the task from conviction no less than duty, seeing the Open University as the only way of securing a permanent institution, performing functions once restricted to elite schools and mechanics institutes.

He went on to become Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Council of the Open University in 1969. From 1971 he was Chairman of the OU Committee on Continuing Education which reported in 1976 on ways in which the work of the Open University could be extended. His other interests and responsibilities extended to adult education, scientific and manpower policy, and broadcasting. He married in 1932 Dr Ethel Craig Howell. They had two sons and two daughters.

## Dr Alfred Emden

Dr A. B. Emden, Principal of St Edmund Hall, Oxford from 1929 to 1951, died on January 8 at the age of 90. Alfred Brotherson Emden was born in 1888, the son of Judge Alfred Emden, of the Eton School, Canterbury, where he was a scholar at Lincoln College, Oxford, where he obtained a second in History in 1911. He then joined the Eton staff, but though qualified and never called "interdict" he was a characteristically social type, he became head of a boarding-house in Eton and on his departure from Eton he was transferred to the RNVR. For the rest of the war he was mainly served as an AB in a North Sea destroyer. On demobilisation he was appointed history tutor and bursar at Eton College, Oxford, and for more than 30 years thereafter the Hall remained his abiding interest and the scene of his immensely successful administrative activity. In 1920 he became Vice-Principal, and from 1929 to 1955 was Principal. In those years the Hall ceased to be a tiny community, little more than a boarding-house, and came to rival the colleges in numbers, academic and sporting successes, and also in prestige. It was Eton who lay behind this expansion. The principal of the Hall, who then infused the place, derived directly from him. Simultaneously he was rebuilding the Hall's finances, restoring its buildings and incorporating and creating new ones, and fostering high standards among the undergraduates. In 1937 he succeeded in getting two important statutes approved on transferring the site and the appointment of the principal from Queen's College, which had held it since the sixteenth century, to trustees, and the other giving the Hall a new constitution, which while more liberal than the one it superseded, deliberately stopped short of collegiate status.

Though he did not confine his interests to the Hall, for long he was a leading member of both the Hebdomadal Council and the Oxford Preservation Trust, and he also served actively on the governing bodies of four public schools. He was also keenly concerned with boys' clubs and youth work and organising unemployed miners' camps. At the same time, as well as being a stimulating teacher, he had developed as a considerable historian, with the medieval universities as his field. His *An Oxford Hall in Medieval Times* (1927) remains indispensable as a thorough investigation of the early Oxford system. It discards earlier theories that medieval univer-

PROFESSOR I. A. RICHARDS  
'New criticism' from Cambridge

Professor I. A. Richards, CBE, who died on September 7 at the age of 86, was a central figure in the revolution in the teaching of English at Cambridge in the 1920s from which much of what is called the "New Criticism" ultimately derives. One of his books, *Practical Criticism*, gave a name to a teaching method (the informal examination of unsigned texts in discussion groups) now fundamental in schools and universities in all English-speaking countries, and also to a method of close textual analysis employed by many modern critics of poetry. The range of Richards' interests was, however, much wider and more speculative than such a statement might suggest. These interests included modernism, classical Chinese philosophy, simple methods of practical language teaching, including Basic English (of which, with C. K. Ogden, he was the pioneer), the scientific method, the view of the poetic imagination, the psychological bases of the enjoyment of art, the wider and deeper problems of language and meaning. Yet it might be said that Richards' central interest, in a busy and useful life, was in teaching the intelligent appreciation of poetry and that his own blossoming out as a poet, in his studies, was a fitting and happy climax to a busy and useful life.

Born on February 26, 1893, in Cheshire, Ivor Armstrong Richards was educated at Clifton and at Magdalene College, Cambridge, of which he was to become a fellow in 1926. Perhaps the most important event of his early Cambridge years was his meeting with the remarkable polymath, C. K. Ogden, who encouraged the younger man to explore the fascinating and debatable land where psychology, criticism, and language meet. In a sense, Richards had the mind of a philosopher but at a time when the main tendency of philosophy (as in

the early Wittgenstein, whom Richards knew well and disliked) was severely analytic, Richards was essentially a synthesizer, or a builder of bridges between traditionally separate disciplines. His first two books, *The Foundations of Aesthetics*, 1921, and *The Meaning of Meaning*, 1923, both written in collaboration (the latter along with C. K. Ogden) have a kind of common, indefinable richness, as if they were the work of a machine or of the universe as a whole. But they contain root ideas some of which were later to be developed by other writers along narrower, clearer lines. Richards' first individual work, *Principles of Literary Criticism*, attempts to base critical evaluation, or literary values, on what at first looks like a rather mechanical theory of the incidentally suggestive rather than definitive. But they contain root ideas some of which were later to be developed by other writers along narrower, clearer lines. Richards' first individual work, *Principles of Literary Criticism*, attempts to base critical evaluation, or literary values, on what at first looks like a rather mechanical theory of the incidentally suggestive rather than definitive. But they contain root ideas some of which were later to be developed by other writers along narrower, clearer lines.

There was something of the same apparent crudity in the brilliantly written short pamphlets, *Science and Poetry* (1925). This rests on the assumption that science presents us with a neutral universe and that therefore the grander interests of poetry must be "emotive" rather than "referential"; they tell us not that all is well, or ill, with the world, but that all is well or ill with the poet's nervous system. The incidental criticism in both books, particularly in *Principles of Literary Criticism*, the astonishing personal appreciation of *The Waste Land*—seemed often much subtler than the theory allowed for. In later years, Richards used regretfully to refer to *Science and Poetry* as a "fixative" rather than a "developer" and to *Principles of Literary Criticism* as a "sermon", using the language of psychology as in an earlier age it might have used the language of religion or philo-

sophical idealism. But Richards' later theories of language and of the psychology of appreciation, rather than of the psychology of the poet, were more original and more speculative. Richards made a return visit to China in the late 1930s and in 1939 accepted a post as a lecturer in English at Harvard. A popular work on Basic English published in 1943 might be considered as war work.

Richards was now settled during the university working year in America where he was professor at Harvard until 1963, but in the vacations, after the war, he regularly revisited England and Switzerland, and travelled further afield, to Japan and China. In 1964 he was made a Companion of Honour.

The practical side of his mind came out in his sponsoring of a series of text-books on the simplified learning of languages, rather than on Basic English lines. He was much consulted by official bodies on language-teaching problems, and perhaps partly for this reason his later books of theory, *How to Read a Page* (1942) and *Speculative Instruments* (1955) are suggestive rather than thorough. Subsequent to his retirement in 1963, Richards published two more books, *Interpretation in Teaching* (1971), both collections of essays, and *Beyond* (1975) a study of diety in the Hellenic-Hebraic traditions.

The great interest of his later years, however, was in the writing of poems and plays, and he was delighted at the enthusiastic reception of the two volumes of poems, *The Screens* (1960) and *Good-Bye, Earth* (1953) in particular, by younger poets. Richards was a man of the world who had somehow found himself in academic groves. He was invaluable on committees that dealt, for instance, with wine or redecoration of the hall, or revision of the constitution, and as President his genius for hospitality had full scope. The time of his retirement coincided with many changes in the College staff, and he nobly took on for a transitional term the arduous duties of a Cambridge Senior Tutor.

He was yet to publish, in 1966, under the title *Things I Remember*, a translation of the Italian poet, Agostino I. In the same year he was awarded the Italian Gold Medal for Benemeriti della Cultura e dell'Arte, and in 1965 the British Academy's Serena Medal for Italian Studies.

At Oxford Mohan had played no mean part in the foundation and establishment of the Oxford University Bible Union (now the OICCU). Ordained in 1923, he began his long and successful ministry at the Parish Church of Islington. He was an assiduous visitor and established a lifelong reputation for showing generous appreciation of the work of others whilst forgetful of his own. He quickly began to make his mark as a potential leader, not least among the Evangelists of his day.

## Senior Editor of Italian Studies

In his own writing he was a historian rather than a critic of literature. His turn was for the concrete, not abstract philosophy, and he was inclined to be impatient of real intellectual rigour. He loved ferreting out facts of the past. The range of his output stretched from Dante and the Renaissance to the present, but his main contribution was to knowledge of the lives and works of Italian exiles in Britain in the early nineteenth century. *Gabriele Rossetti in England* (1936), and *Ugo Foscolo* (1937), in *English Literature*, 1953, which was translated into Italian, were his chief works. He became one of the best known "foscolisti", and later through light also on the life of the dramatist Alfieri.

He retired in 1962 his collaborators, friends and former pupils honoured him with a volume of *Italian Studies*. From the Italian Government he received a "Comendatore al merito della Repubblica". He was indeed a diplomat almost as much as a scholar, delighting to represent his country at conferences in Italy and to give lectures for visiting Italian lecturers. He was Joint-President in 1959 of the Associazione Italiana di Studi Italiani.

During the Second World War he did valuable service at the Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, eventually with a roving commission to report to central authorities. It brought him the CBE and incidental visits to America. Undeterred by the blackout, he went out dancing on many evenings, and as Chairman of the Bletchley Club, that catered for the large numbers of his fellow-workers he did much to keep them cheerful.

Though not bred a Corpus man, "Vince" as he was called, yielded to none in loyalty. He was a man of the world who had somehow found himself in academic groves. He was invaluable on committees that dealt, for instance, with wine or redecoration of the hall, or revision of the constitution, and as President his genius for hospitality had full scope. The time of his retirement coincided with many changes in the College staff, and he nobly took on for a transitional term the arduous duties of a Cambridge Senior Tutor.

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## Canon T. G. Mohan

Canon Talbot Graves Mohan, who died on January 10 at the age of 83, was an outstanding church leader. The influence of his ministry also extended beyond the borders of this country. He was a most welcome visitor to Australia and was appointed in 1956 an honorary Canon of Sydney Cathedral.

## Dame Kitty Anderson

Dame Kitty Anderson, DBE, who was Head Mistress of the North London Collegiate School from 1944 to 1965, died on January 15 at the age of 75. The daughter of a chartered accountant, Kitty Anderson was born on July 4, 1903, and educated at the High School for Girls, Saltburn-by-the-Sea. Subsequently she entered the Royal Holloway College, where she took her BA degree in history. Choosing teaching as a career, she spent six years on the staff of Burlington School, London, before becoming Mistress of Kings Norton Girls' Grammar School, in Birmingham. Here she spent five years, being appointed Head Mistress of North London Collegiate School in 1944. Here she upheld the traditions of the school founded by Frances Buss in 1850, watchful for its traditions, but also careful to nurture a more relaxed family atmosphere in which the talents and capacities of individual girls were catered for.

She was created DBE for her work in education in 1961 but her retirement four years later was a busy one. From 1965 to 1975 she was chairman of the Girls' Public Day School Trust and became president of the Schoolmistresses' & Governesses' Benevolent Institution in 1972. Her advice on education was much sought and she served on a number of government committees including the Robbins Committee on Higher Education which recommended the massive expansion in university education which took place in the 1960s.

Dame Kitty was a Fellow of the College of Ambassadors and had honorary degrees from Hull and York universities besides her London PhD. Mr Charles Fisher, Headmaster of Goulston Church of England Grammar School in Victoria, Australia, has died in a car accident near Kununurra, north of Melbourne. He was 57. The 3rd son of the late Lord Fisher of Lambeth, formerly Archbishop of Canterbury, Charles Douglas Fisher was educated at Marlborough and Keble College, Oxford.

He was an Assistant Master at Harrow from 1948 to 1955 and Senior Master at Peterhouse, Rhodesia, from 1955 to 1961. After a further year at Sherborne he went to Adelaide as Headmaster of Scotch College from 1961 to 1969. He was Headmaster of the Church of England Grammar School, Brisbane, from 1970 to 1973 and was appointed Headmaster of Goulston Grammar School in 1974.

He married in 1952. Anna Gilmore, nee Hammond. They had four sons and two daughters.

## Professor Eric Vincent

Professor Eric R. P. Vincent, CBE, who died last December at the age of 84, had been the Chair of Italian in the University

of Cambridge from 1935 to 1962, a period nearly twice as long as the combined tenure of his three predecessors, and had been a Fellow of Corpus Christi College since 1928 (President from 1954-59). He was born on December 10, 1894. Several of his forebears had been noted for music. His father, Charles Vincent, held the Oxford doctorate, being organist, composer, conductor and teacher. He himself was destined for the piano trade, and after a not particularly distinguished career at Berkhamstead School worked for a year in a Camden Town factory, before being sent in the spring of 1914 into the Stock factory at Gosh. There he was overtake by the First World War, which he spent with some four thousand others in Ruhleben camp. It was here that he began to develop, and he acknowledged that he owed everything to Matthew Stuart Prichard, to the stimulus of his talk and to his Circle Italian. The first book he read was the *Divine Comedy*, and they read it three times, taking a canto each in turn for translation and comment. Vincent's Italian pronunciation was learnt from an Italian-Arabian opera singer. By the end of the war he had forgotten about music—indeed he almost reacted against it: Italian was to be his passion for life.

On his release he went up to Christ Church, studied with gusto under Cesare Fogliosi, and was duly placed in the First Class in the School of Modern and Medieval Lan-



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# Sportsmen in action and in business

## Mr Whitney Straight

Mr Whitney Straight, CBE, AIC, DFC, who died on April 5 aged 66, was a man whose remarkable versatility was matched only by his energy and the breadth of his interests. He had been deputy chairman of BEA; managing director of BOAC; and in 1955 joined Rolls-Royce, of which he was later to become chairman. From 1969 to 1974 he was deputy chairman of the Post Office Corporation.

The son of Major W. D. Straight and Mrs Dorothy Whitney, he was born in New York on November 6, 1912, but later became a British citizen. He was educated at Lincoln School in America, Dartington Hall and Trinity College, Cambridge.

Exceptionally gifted mentally and physically, Mr Whitney Straight was never satisfied with the safe and easy life which good fortune at birth might have given him.

His good looks gave his sporting achievements a special flourish. At Brooklands motor racing track he earned the admiration of the spectators. In a Maserati he was a popular winner of the Mountain Championship in 1934. He formed his own motor racing stable and in addition to his successes on the circuits showed great flair in hill climb competitions such as that at Shelsley Walsh. He lapped Brooklands track with its banked corners at a speed approaching the design limit, 138.7 miles an hour.

When still in his 20s he was head of the Straight Corporation and managing director of 23 of its subsidiary companies operating flying clubs and airfields throughout the United Kingdom. Before he could obtain a pilot's licence at the age of 17 he had flown solo for more than 50 hours.

On the outbreak of war in 1939 he was a pilot officer in No 601 (County of London) Squadron, Royal Auxiliary Air Force, and served in Norway, where he was wounded. He was not fit for flying duties again until near the end of the Battle of Britain, when he went back to his old squadron flying Hurricanes. Later, he commanded a fighter squadron and was involved in the destruction of four and a half enemy aircraft and with damaging others when he was shot down by a flak ship while on an anti-shipping sortie over the Channel.

Straight forced landed in France and reached the Spanish frontier in five days. He swam a river in daylight but was taken prisoner, and at the third attempt made good his escape from prison camp and succeeded in making his way back to the United Kingdom via Gibraltar. Soon afterwards he was on his way to Egypt to build up No 216 Group, Transport Command. He ended the war in command of Transport Command No 46 Group in the United Kingdom, with the rank of air commodore. He was appointed CBE and gained the MC, DFC, Norwegian War Cross, American Legion of Merit, and was mentioned in despatches.

He married in 1935 Lady Osphine Fluch-Hatton, elder daughter of the 14th Earl of Wiltshire and Nottingham. They had two daughters.

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## Sir Hubert Ashton

Sir Hubert Ashton, KBE, MC, Conservative Member of Parliament for the Chelmsford division of Essex from 1950 to 1964, died on June 17 at the age of 81.

He was Second Church Estates Commissioner from 1957 to 1962 and Third Commissioner from 1962 to 1972.

Hubert Ashton was, perhaps, better known for his achievements on the cricket field than in politics. He came from a distinguished cricketing family and was the eldest of the three brothers Ashton who did so much for sport at Cambridge. He was a triple Blue at cricket, football and hockey. He captained Cambridge at cricket in 1922. He also played for Essex and many good judges of cricket deplored the fact that he was never selected for England in 1921, the year in which the Australian fast bowlers, Macdonald and Gregory played havoc with the English batsmen. He made 107 against the Australians at Cambridge that year, eventually having to retire with a damaged hand. Later, at Southend, he scored 90 for Essex against the Australians. In the memorable match at Eastbourne when an England XI, captained by A. C. MacLaren, defeated the touring side (after being all out in the first innings for 43) Ashton played a magnificent second innings of 75. In fact, in every match he played against Australia that season he came off. Added to his great batsmanship he was a brilliant fielder. He

## CAPTAIN GEORGE EYSTON

Holder of three world land speed records



George Edward Thomas Eyston was born on June 28, 1897 and educated at Stonyhurst and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he was a keen carman and captain of the first Trinity Boat Club. As a staff captain in the RA in France in the First World War he was wounded at Arras, won the Military Cross and was twice mentioned in dispatches. After his discharge he completed his engineering studies and when he went down from Cambridge he joined J. Stone and Company of Deptford. He later established his own engineering business.

also played football for the Corinthians. In the period after the First World War he and the French player Suzanne Leandri were unbeaten in the women's doubles from 1919 until 1926 when the latter turned professional. With various partners he also enjoyed a rare success in mixed doubles. But though he got as far as the final he never added the singles title to his trophies. She turned professional in 1933.

Among women players Miss Ryan was notable for her ability to play and her choppy forehand, a rare stroke in modern tennis—was another when allied to her tenacity and determination. She had latterly settled in this country and had lived in Chelsea for the past seven years.

## Miss Elizabeth Ryan

Miss Elizabeth Ryan, the American lawn tennis player who won a large number of titles at the game although she never captured either the Wimbledon or US singles title, died in July 6, after collapsing at Wimbledon during the championship fortnight.

Miss Ryan was born in California in 1892 and played in her first British tournament in 1912. She won her first Wimbledon title in 1914. But though it was to be merely the first of 19 Wimbledon titles, of which she won 12 doubles and seven mixed doubles, she was never women's singles

"Thunderbolt" to snatch Sir Malcolm Campbell's record of 301.13 mph, set in 1935. At his first try on November 19, 1937, Eyston put the record up to just over 312 mph in Utah, but the following year Cobb was also on the scene. Undaunted, Eyston raised his own figure to 345.50 mph, then fought back a few weeks later to beat Cobb's speed of 350.20 mph with his own third and final record of 357.5 mph. In 1937 he was awarded the Segrave Trophy and the following year was created a Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur.

During the Second World War Eyston served on various public bodies connected with industry and was Regional Controller, Ministry of Production, Southern Region. In 1948, he was created CBE in recognition of this work. After the war, he was concerned with a number of record breaking activities, both on land and water and his wisdom and experience about record-breaking "knowhow" were willingly handed on to many teams. In 1954, he was one of the leading drivers both for Austin-Healey and MG in their successful attacks on both world and American speed and distance records at Utah. Eyston became a devoted racing yachtsman, was a qualified pilot and author and co-author of several motor books. He was married with two daughters.

Eyston will be remembered for his great charm, his enthusiasm for hard work and his scrupulous gait. He was immensely popular wherever he went.

Eyston's first serious entry into motor racing was in 1926, when he won the Boulogne Grand Prix in a Bugatti. During the next 12 years he became one of Britain's leading drivers, particularly for his many fine performances at Brooklands with his very fast MGs. He won the British Racing Drivers' Club Gold Star for track racing in 1931 and became one of the select band of 130 mph badge holders at Brooklands in 1932.

But it was in the field of record breaking that he was best known and the world and speed record was his honest ambition when he designed

## Mr Bill Williamson

Mr Bill Williamson, the former Australian motor racing champion, died on January 17 at the age of 56, was a race rider of the highest class, respected world wide.

Williamson rode his first winner in December 1937 at Flemington, Australia, when he was barely 15 years old. After a highly successful career in Australia where he was held in higher esteem than either Scottie Brassey or Ron Richards, both of whom he surpassed, he came to England in 1938 and joined the Royal Field Artillery, served until the end of the First World War and was wounded and awarded the Military Cross.

In 1920 he went up to Cambridge, got his Blue, and headed the batting averages. In that year too he was third in the first-class batting averages, though he played only 14 innings. His figures were greatly helped by an innings of 236 not out against the Free Foresters at Cambridge.

In 1922 Ashton went to Burma, where he worked for eight years on the staff of the Burmah Oil Company. He returned to England in 1930 to take up a senior executive position in the company's London office. In 1936 he became an underwriter at Lloyd's.

Ashton was unsuccessful at his first attempt to enter the House of Commons in 1945 but at the General Election of February 1950, won Chelmsford by a margin of 4,838 votes in a straight fight with Wing-Commander Millington, the Common Wealth candidate, who had previously defeated him.

In 1951 he was appointed Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mr R. A. Butler, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, and continued to serve in the same capacity when his chief became Lord Privy Seal and later Home Secretary. In November, 1956, Ashton became vice-chairman of the sub-committee of the Conservative Party's Fuel and Power Committee.

Ashton did much valuable work for his county of Essex. Among his varied interests agriculture took a high place and he farmed 300 acres at Ingatstone. He had, too, much experience in local government and in 1946 was elected a County Councillor for Brentwood (North). In April 1949, after reelection with an increased majority, he was appointed vice-chairman of the County Council and was made a County Alderman. When he became Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mr Butler he resigned this office.

He was for many years President of the Essex County Cricket Club, and for three spells was a member of the MCC Committee. He was president in 1961.

He married, in 1927, Dorothy Margaret Gaiskell, sister of Hugh Gaiskell. They had two sons and two daughters.

## MR EDDIE PAYNTER

Match-winning England batsman

Mr Edward Paynter, the England and Lancashire cricketer, whose death at the age of 77 was reported on February 6, was undoubtedly one of the great batsmen of the period between the two world wars, but he had to compete with the brilliance of such players as Hammond and Burton and somehow or other his fame, outside his native county, was never blazoned as brightly as it deserved. To some extent this was due to the outbreak of the Second World War which found him in his prime, for although he made nearly 2,000 runs in 1939 he did not play again in first-class cricket.

He owed much in his early days to the advice and coaching of J. T. Tyldesley, but his

ability as a batsman and fine cover-point or deep field was the more remarkable in that as a boy he had lost the top of the first and second fingers of his right hand—a defect which impaired his influence on his style and technique, and perhaps impaired such natural grace as he might have had. The late 1920s were a period of Lancashire supremacy; a regular place in the side was hard to come by, and Paynter was nearly 30 when he secured this. But the impression he then gave will be realized when it is recalled that he was chosen for England against New Zealand at Old Trafford in his first full season for his County.

After this he went straight to the top and it is difficult to see

why he had not arrived there years before. By the end of 1939 he had hit 45 centuries, had made 1,540 runs. In Test matches, and in these had an average of a fraction under 60—a figure only surpassed by Sutcliffe. When with the MCC in South Africa in 1938-39 he scored two centuries in a Test match at Johannesburg; while in England, with Hammond and Compton he created the fourth and fifth wicket records respectively against Australia. This was in 1938 and after his score of 216 not out at Nottingham the whole crowd rose to their feet and cheered him all the way to the pavilion.

Yet perhaps he had played his greatest innings in the critical fourth Test at Brisbane in 1933. Taken ill with a throat

## Life-styles of the President's lady

### Mme Yvonne de Gaulle

During the First World War she had been a nurse at the Calais hospital. In the 1950s *Le Canard Enchaîné* nicknamed her "Tante Yvonne", expressing a certain homesickness about the French Republic, in spite of this, they embarked on founding a home for handicapped children, where Anne could go if she survived them. They found a chateau at Milon in Champagne near Reims, and there they considered mortgaging their house, Georges Pompidou who had worked closely with de Gaulle after the liberation and, on de Gaulle's retirement, had joined the Rothschild Bank as a director, made arrangements to avoid this and became treasurer of the Fondation Anne de Gaulle. It was to help support the chateau that de Gaulle decided to publish his war memoirs as he wrote them. With his wife's agreement he devoted the large sums made by the three volumes to the chateau and the charities. For the rest of her life Yvonne de Gaulle constantly visited this home.

As wife of the President, Yvonne de Gaulle insisted on as much privacy as was reasonable. Her private car carried no coats and the Republic's Guards were instructed not to present arms when she entered or left the Elysée. She did her private shopping alone and often passed unobserved in the streets. The private car was photographed, except with her husband.

Inevitably people talked of her as "the power behind the throne". This was nonsense. She never attempted to influence de Gaulle's policies or to seek favours for her protégés. She did, on occasion, make known her views.

She was probably responsible for removing divorced persons from the Presidential staff and in crossing off names of persons guilty of the same error from State reception.

the family went to live at La Boisserie, Le Colombier, at first they found themselves in straitened circumstances. De Gaulle had refused offers from the French Government to give him a large State pension. In spite of this, they embarked on founding a home for handicapped children, where Anne could go if she survived them. They found a chateau at Milon in Champagne near Reims, and there they considered mortgaging their house, Georges Pompidou who had worked closely with de Gaulle after the liberation and, on de Gaulle's retirement, had joined the Rothschild Bank as a director, made arrangements to avoid this and became treasurer of the Fondation Anne de Gaulle. It was to help support the chateau that de Gaulle decided to publish his war memoirs as he wrote them. With his wife's agreement he devoted the large sums made by the three volumes to the chateau and the charities. For the rest of her life Yvonne de Gaulle constantly visited this home.

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Yvonne Vendroux and Charles de Gaulle were married in April, 1921. From then until de Gaulle's death in November 1970 she devoted herself unreservedly to her husband and made a success of the task of being the wife of a great man, and a difficult one at that. The marriage was happy and the families, her husband and wife were so far apart in temperament and nature that an untroubled marriage, as it turned out, to be, seemed unlikely.

Charles de Gaulle, 10 years older than his wife, was arrogant and reserved, and though a great future had been predicted for him by some of his friends he was markedly difficult to get on with.

Yvonne Vendroux was already attached to living a quiet life in the country. She had rejected an offer of marriage from a young well-connected officer on the grounds that she could never stand trapping from Germany to Germany and Paris to Paris. She was a woman of few words, but to bring up her children in her own environment. She was not cast for a social life and had no taste for dressing up. However, she was destined to follow her husband in the pre-war years to Germany to Germany and Paris to Paris. She was a woman of few words, but to bring up her children in her own environment. She was not cast for a social life and had no taste for dressing up. However, she was destined to follow her husband in the pre-war years to Germany to Germany and Paris to Paris. She was a woman of few words, but to bring up her children in her own environment. She was not cast for a social life and had no taste for dressing up. 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## AN ALTERNATIVE GOVERNMENT

is the most banal statement about Mrs Thatcher's government is that the most important: she will either succeed or fail. We hope at she will succeed, not only because the success of any government must be in the national interest but because her government's market approach to the economic problems is necessary to balance the excessive movement to socialism in a postwar period.

It is certainly too early to tell whether her policies will be successful or not. That will be assured in terms of unemployment, in the rates of inflation, levels of taxation in years to come. If she does succeed then it will no doubt win the next general election and national politics will follow a mainly Conservative course in the 1980s. Lady Macbeth, though in a later cause, Mrs Thatcher, believes that the best answer to the question: "If we should fail?" is "screw your courage to the sticking place and we'll not fail".

at, though heart-warming, was an entirely prudent answer Lady Macbeth, nor is it for Mrs Thatcher, and it would be a very poor answer indeed if it were offered by *The Times*. It is sensible to look at the alternatives.

his in essence is what Mr Roy Jenkins did in his Dimbleby Lecture last night. There is a failure of Mrs Thatcher's government would be owed by the election of a government commanding real public confidence, but limited to an extremist manifesto which would then be carried out. This would involve a further increase in public expenditure and taxation, the abolition of remaining constitutional safeguards and so on. This is the formula of the far left who would the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party, such a thing were to happen would not be a triumph but a failure of democracy. The tariff faction which has de-

veloped such influence in the trade unions, and in the Labour Party has the support of only a small minority of the electorate. Its power in the Labour Party is gained by packing small committee meetings, by intrigue and by the use of block votes which in no way represent the real wishes of the individual voters. It is not democracy; it is manipulation.

The obvious way to remove this danger is to change to a system of proportional representation. If Britain had any of the normal forms of proportional representation, there would be no danger of a Marxist government being formed because there is absolutely no danger of a Marxist majority. We should therefore be safe from the most damaging political event that could at present happen to us. Some Conservatives are in favour of this but the Prime Minister is resolutely against it, and has the backing of her party. It is indeed the worst defect in her position: it amounts to saying that it is so important to have a Conservative government that Britain must take the risk of having a Marxist government emerge as the alternative.

So long as the Conservatives take this view, the only way to reach proportional representation is to return a majority of Members to some future House of Commons who are committed to it. It is not reasonable to expect that the Liberal Party could achieve that majority on their own. If it is to be done at all it must be done by some coalition of the centre and that would have to come into existence before and not after the General Election. The coalition must put an agreed programme to the electorate. This would be the elective form of the "radical centre" to which Mr Jenkins referred.

A coalition of the centre could well win an election outright. If Mrs Thatcher does not succeed

in her central task of mastering inflation the Conservatives will not win the next General Election whenever that comes. At 20 per cent inflation they would be dead by 1983 at the latest. A significant proportion of the Conservative vote in 1979 would in that case move to the centre in protest.

At the same time voters will be leaving the Labour Party if the present trend to domination by the left is continued. It would be madness for people who want the sort of decent and liberal society which Mr Roy Jenkins advocates to vote for Labour candidates committed to a National Executive manifesto. More nationalization, more spending, more bureaucracy, more taxation is a policy of decline for Britain, but it is also a recipe for the decline and fall of the Labour Party. The greatest remaining strength of the Labour Party is that it still has the experience and manpower of an attractive government while the Liberal Party on its own does not.

Could the centre provide a genuine alternative government? That would depend on the character and strength of the coalition that was formed and on the quality and experience of the individuals who formed it. It is vital that the Liberal Party should welcome allies, but equally vital that the coalition should be clearly defined.

Britain is not only a changing, but is a changed society. The old Labour Party is already dying in large areas of the country; in the South-West Mr David Owen's nearest Labour neighbour sits for Pontypool—a long way from Plymouth. The creation of an alternative Government which would not be a disaster for Britain is now both feasible and necessary. It would give a new form to Mr David Steel's Liberal Party. It would make institutional changes which would allow Britain a greater stability of government than we have had since 1964.

## Accountability of the NEB

From Lord Boyd-Carpenter

Sir, The question posed in the last paragraph of your leading article today (November 22) as to whether the Board of the National Enterprise Board or officials of the Department of Industry provide the worst method of monitoring Rolls-Royce is what emboldened politicians call "a good question". But you seek to justify your marginal preference for the former by suggesting that "the NEB is openly accountable".

This is less true than it might be. For despite demands in both Houses of Parliament the various Government departments have refused to submit the accounts of the NEB to examination by the Public Accounts Committee. The spending of very large sums of public money was therefore not subjected to scrutiny on behalf of Parliament in the way most public expenditure is. (And the situation was made worse by the observation attributed to the NEB's then Chairman that responsibility to a Minister seemed to him to be the same as responsibility to Parliament.)

Putting one Board (that of the NEB) on top of the Board responsible for a company is not only calculated to produce confusion but leaves unanswered the question of effective supervision of the NEB Board's doings. Or, to complete your quotation, "Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?"

I am your obedient servant who is particularly glad to see you back, BOYD-CARPENTER, House of Lords, November 22.

## Jury vetting

From Professor Colonel G. I. A. D. Draper

Sir, In your article under this title, in your issue of the 19th Miss Harman and Mr Sedley contend that the Attorney-General now has the opportunity to put an end to this doubly legal practice (also see your editorial, November 20). They are referring to the practice of the selection in a criminal trial of jurors who are "vetted" by the Attorney-General. In support, they rely upon a "statute of 1305", in these terms: "If they that sue for the king will challenge any of those jurors they shall assign a cause certain, and the writ of the same challenge shall be inquired of according to the custom of the court."

This so-called "statute" is none other than our old friend the "Ordinance for Inquests" ordained by the King and his Council long after all the estates of the realm had gone home from the Parliament by Edward I on February 16, 1305.

It is of this "Ordinance" for Inquests that Professor Maitland wrote his famous legal essay *De Memoranda Parliamenti* in which he stated: "Such an ordinance was beneath the dignity of the statute roll, and we should have great difficulty in proving that it had the status of the statute." It was a concession by the king, and the king's ordinance power would easily cover the making of such a concession. (Maitland's *Essays*, p. 32).

In fact, the year 1305 was not, for various reasons, much of a year for statutes at all on any subject, let alone on the challenging of jurors by the Crown. The language of the Ordinance is general and in no way purports to be dealing specifically with the trial of criminals before petty juries or grand juries.

Thus, with respect to the two writers of the article, what is in doubt is not the legality of the modern practice of "stand by for the Crown" in criminal trials, but the legality of the "statute" of 1305 upon which they rely for the illegality of that practice.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, G. I. A. D. DRAPER, 16 Southview, High Street, Lewes, Sussex, November 20.

From Mr Charles Rogers

Sir, In your leader "Nearly random juries" (November 20) you advocate the introduction of a basic literacy and numeracy test for prospective jurors. The dangers of accepting this seemingly innocuous proposal are legion. The basic principle behind a jury system is that the accused should be judged by a randomly selected panel of jurors representing society as a whole. Any limitation of the pool from which jurors are drawn, whether on the basis of "intelligence", race, religion or political persuasion, makes a total mockery of this principle.

Furthermore, how would one prevent the required level of attainment to achieve a "pass" from being raised to a level which would effectively restrict the selection of jurors to one small elite section of society?

Once such a proposal is allowed to gain respectability, it is only a small step to introducing intelligence tests for the right to vote, writ of habeas corpus, etc. I have no doubt that we may still be able to make to being a model of parliamentary democracy.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES ROGERS, 6 Almond Close, Gosport, Hampshire, November 20.

## 'Panorama' in Ulster

From Mr John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative)

Sir, Mr Peter Taylor (November 21) takes pride in filming the IRA and, with some arrogance, compares his activities to the regretted meetings between Ministers of the Crown and IRA men. A "fourth estate" indeed!

Terrorism lives by publicity and languishes without it. Those who have made sensational programmes out of the IRA should indeed set their houses in order.

Your obedient servant, JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON, House of Commons, November 21.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Professor Blunt and patriotism

From Professor Eric Burhop, FRS

Sir, I can only assume that the great mass of superficial and uninformed comment about Cambridge in the 1930s that has followed the publication of *The Climate of Treason* and the trial by press, television and radio of Anthony Blunt must be attributed to the age and lack of historical perspective of the commentators. They have evidently neither lived through nor comprehended the social pressures of the period.

Incidentally, as a Cambridge research student of this period, it seems strange to me that nobody has referred to the notorious Oxford Union resolution, passed with a large majority in 1933, that this House will in no circumstances fight for its King and Country. Clearly our great sister educational institution was afflicted with the same malaise.

The great depression of the 1930s had eaten deep into the whole social fabric. Huge unemployment, malnutrition, the dole, means test, hunger marches—these were the realities of the time. Clearly the conventional capitalist market economy had failed and it is not surprising that the brightest spirits in our universities were looking to alternative social systems. Some towards financial quacks like social credit, but many more toward Marxist solutions.

Earnest groups of young students, and by no means only students of economics, were discussing the labour theory of value, reading the classic works of Marx and Engels and their simplified, if superficial, popularisations such as John Strachey's *The Coming Struggle for Power*.

The Oxford Union resolution, which caused such shivers to run down the spine of the Establishment, was one way of warning that a society which could provide a minimum of opportunity or substance standards for very large numbers of its people was hardly worth defending. Naturally there was great interest in the Soviet Union, which was attempting to build a society based on a different, Marxist economic system.

The rise of Nazism was itself a direct result of the obvious insufficiency and worldwide collapse of the capitalist economy. The persecution and exodus from Nazi Germany of many of the greatest intellectual figures of our time naturally had a maximum impact in our universities. Nazism appeared the most evil thing any of us had seen.

Our Government, under Neville Chamberlain, seemed bent on appeasing Hitler. The press and radio applauded Munich with almost the same unanimity and lack of historic analysis as they have since. During the past few days in the Blunt affair, during the period between 1935 and August 1939, the only force that stood staunchly against Nazism, and seemed capable of offering effective assistance to the Jews, was in Spain, Austria and Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union and its Red Army.

This is in no way intended to be an apology for Blunt, Burgess, Maclean or anybody else recruited into the Soviet espionage system. Whatever their motivations, their actions, in the long run, have done immense harm, including especially harm to the building of détente and East-West understanding in the postwar world. The essential basis on which a stable peace must ultimately be built.

Churchill once said that the purpose of going over the past is to draw lessons for the future. Once again the world is facing severe economic depression. It is profoundly to be hoped that the Government will take note and avoid

## Prayer Book language

From The Dean of Guildford

Sir, The Vicar of Ealing says that, unless we adopt new liturgies, the Church of England will become a "jewelled corpse". Thus the smother for liturgical change is fear of institutional conservatism. Such fear is understandable. For a long time now, institutional Christianity in this country has been on the wane, church membership has declined and the Church of England is a shadow of its former self. It is a sad state of affairs, and we could easily reverse the process by throwing away the old liturgies and adopting the new, and such a reversal is plainly what the Synod hopes to achieve.

We could go further and throw away other relics of the past—choirs, organs and traditional church music, thanking God, as the Vicar of Ealing did in his speech to the Synod, that at last we were freeing ourselves from "the cultural establishment".

None of this is new. When the church was in retreat before triumphant Islam in the seventh and eighth centuries, as it has recently been in retreat before triumphant secularism, the traditional images of the church were blamed for its plight, and iconoclasm became the order of the day. When, in a later age, some people came to believe that the Christian faith was threatened by corruption within the church itself,

## Enigma keyboard

From Dr D. W. Babbage

Sir, Your review of Ralph Bennett's *Ultra in the West* in *The Times* today (November 19) is illustrated by a photograph of the German Enigma encoding machine with the keyboard in alphabetical order. I think this must be the original commercial machine from which the wartime version was developed. The keyboard on the latter read:

Q W E R T Z U I O  
A S D F G H J K  
P Y X C V B N M L

Cryptographers in Hut 6 had good occasion to become familiar with it. Yours faithfully, DR. D. W. BABBAGE, Magdalene College, Cambridge.

economic policies that could generate the social divisiveness that was the real background to the events of the 1930s.

Yours &c, ERIC BURHOP, 206 Gilbert House, Barbican, EC2, November 21.

From Mr Correll Barnett

Sir, With regard to Blunt, we should remember that the 1920s and 1930s marked a high tide of romantic idealism, or high-minded priggishness, among the public-school-educated British elite. Common-room Communism was not the only form of mandarin prize-essay to flourish: there were the League of Nations Union, the Peace Pledge Union, the Anglo-German Group and the Anglo-German "Link", and numerous other groups or ad-hoc committees devoted to various "good causes". There was a "Bloomsbury" group, the grand guru of intellectual westness.

A web of personal relationships and inter-connecting memberships linked the different sects into what may fairly be described as "the Establishment".

Blunt and co., having pushed romantic idealism to the point of treachery, simply take the cigar as the priest, or most misguided, asses of them all.

Yours sincerely, CORRELL BARNETT, Churchill College, Cambridge.

From Mr Nicholas Walter

Sir, I wish to protest against the leading article about the case of Anthony Blunt (November 22). The "vulnerability" of a particular type of liberalism to totalitarian ideas, which you criticize is best explained not by the tendency to reject "absolute standards" in general but by the attempt to replace one set of absolute standards by another.

The intellectuals who became traitors turned from old-fashioned patriotism to newfangled Marxism, from philosophical idealism to dialectical materialism, from following one class or country to following another. Those who preserved the liberal and libertarian principles of G. E. Moore and Bertrand Russell, Lytton Strachey and E. M. Forster, were tempted neither by Fascism nor by Communism and betrayed neither their country nor their friends.

And what has homosexuality to do with the case? It would be just as relevant to point out that Anthony Blunt is the son of a Church of England priest!

NICHOLAS WALTER, The National Press Association, Ltd, 88 Lexington House, St. N1.

From Professor Kenneth Kirkwood

Sir, Michael Howard is surely wrong in saying that the aspects of the Blunt affair which he emphasises "have hitherto been overlooked". Few countries can have been so saturated with spy stories, true and fictional, during the past few decades. Knowledge of "double agents" and their devious ways is widespread in junior schools as well as in All Souls.

More important and more questionable is Professor Howard's assumption about the "national interest". It might well have been in everyone's best interest, in this, as in other matters of state, to have dealt with clearly and openly in 1964.

Yours truly, KENNETH KIRKWOOD, St Antony's College, Oxford.

once again the traditional images were blamed: Cromwell and his Puritans proceeded to break as much stained glass and smash as many medieval statues as they could in the pious conviction that, if they severed all connections with "the cultural establishment" of the day, the kingdom of God would not be long in coming.

Unfortunately, they were wrong: after a period of ferocious iconoclasm all that came was a violent reaction against the Puritans and all that they stood for, by which time the church in this country had been greatly impoverished.

It would be easy to suggest that the mistakes repeatedly made by iconoclasts, who blame the images they inherit for the woes they encounter, has been to forget that bad workmen blame their tools; but I don't think that my fellow clergy are bad workmen. Their mistake lies deeper: it is a failure to understand that the role of the great verbal, visual, and musical images used in worship is to transform the ordinary into a revelation of the super-ordinary; and this is what Christian worship, faith, and life are all about.

The language of the new liturgies does the reverse, transforming the divine into the ordinary and reducing the vision of the city of God to the likeness of a landscape in suburbia.

Yours sincerely, TONY BRIDGE, The Deanery, 1 Cathedral Close, Guildford, November 19.

## Mounbatten statue

From Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. M. Walton, R.A.M.C. (retired)

Sir, If we are to have an equestrian statue of Earl Mountbatten, please may he be mounted on a really handsome horse? Earl Haig is shown mounted on an animal which resembles the worst type of Victorian rocking horse. He was a fine judge of a horse, being a cavalry officer of the old school.

Those of us who knew and loved the British and Indian Cavalry horses avert our eyes in shame every time we pass Earl Haig's statue in Whitehall. This time, please may we employ a sculptor who knows something about horses?

Yours faithfully, H. C. M. WALTON, 346 Woodstock Road, Oxford.

## Level of academic standards

From Mr Philip F. Nind

Sir, In his letter about increasing fees to overseas students (November 20) Dr Ralf Dahrendorf writes that the effect of the Government's policy "is one of the destruction of excellence and the severing of international ties". May I broaden the discussion on the effects upon higher education of the public expenditure cuts, to emphasise the importance of ensuring that, whatever other consequences and aftermath of the cuts may be, nothing is allowed to be done to destroy excellence.

The remarkable expansion of higher education in the 1960s, of which Robbins was perhaps both effect and cause, coincided with a violently strong wave of egalitarianism throughout society which was no doubt appropriate both to the decade in general and to Britain's educational needs in particular. It is not difficult to see the advantages of this during those early heady years of growth, but in these austere and slimmer times it would be foolish beyond all political acceptability for the slimming, retrenchment process to be equally egalitarian. This is not intended to be a justification for the philosophy of elitism, but a plea for sheer common sense—that, if you have to discard it, it is the lower cards you discard first.

We have in Britain some marvelous universities ("marvel": wonderful example of quality)—the *Concise Oxford Dictionary* is this Conservative Government's claim to be in favour of market forces and therefore surely of the survival of the best in fair competition, going to destroy, or at best to emasculate, some of our finest institutions by sustaining the same egalitarianism in its retrenchment policies? The time has come to be carefully and purposefully selective, at our universities and polytechnics, and for those who teach, research and study there.

This is an issue which must be faced now at every level, political and social, and it is not yet being discussed as openly and earnestly as it deserves. We shall suffer the first of all our ills in higher education if we (a) retrench, (b) unselectively, and (c) without the firm resolve to maintain "excellence" wherever it may be.

Yours faithfully, PHILIP F. NIND, Director, Foundation for Management Education, Management House, Parker Street, WC2, November 21.

## Cheaper rail travel

From the Reverend T. G. Comber

Sir, With the rise in rail fares now official and the reminder that they are already very high when compared with journeys by coach, and even private car, when more than one passenger is concerned, may I suggest that the British Railways Board do a deal with the British public. The Senior Citizen's Rail Card, costing £7, is an obvious success from the Board's point of view, in extra revenue earned, as well as from that of the one million holders.

Could not the Board offer exactly the same 50 per cent concession on all journeys to all citizens for a £30 Rail Card, with one considerable restriction, to safeguard against loss on commuter revenue and the over filling of trains, that travel be not allowed before 9 a.m.

It would not be everyone's cup of tea, but there are many people who travel occasionally and would do so more frequently were it not for the formidable fares.

And, if space permits, may I add that if the Board shrinks from such a venture of faith, would they remember that railways are justified by the use that is made of them, rather than the revenue they earn. And, after all, at today's rates, half a fare is still only a lot of money to add to the £20 that would already be in their pockets.

Yours sincerely, TOM COMBER, 32 Alexandra Road, Oxford, November 16.

## The meaning of inflation

From Mr Bernard Gibbs

Sir, How do you or Sir Geoffrey Howe or anyone else concerned to explain the truth of the matter, expect to persuade people that it is a lunacy to try to keep down inflation by keeping down prices, while at the same time using the word "inflation" to mean "rising prices"?

Inflation means pumping air or gas into, say, a balloon or tyre, or money into an economic system, in order to expand it. In the economic sense it always implies "too much money"—something which will ultimately cause rising prices; but the cause is not the same as the thing caused.

Yours faithfully, BERNARD GIBBS, The Garden House, Filkins Hall, Filkins, Lechlade, Gloucestershire, November 18.

## The last goodbye

From Mr H. F. Macdonald

Sir, I am not sure that I can help Mr Brian C. Lowe (November 17) to a formula which would assure his friends on the last Christmas card he sends them of his undying affection for them, unless *semper idem* after his signature will serve.

But I should like to remind him that many charities which supply Christmas cards are going to suffer a loss of income when people are deterred by the high cost of postage from buying their cards. I hope that those who follow Mr Lowe's example will also follow mine by giving a compensatory annual donation to the charity from which they used to buy cards.

Yours faithfully, H. F. MACDONALD, Breaghmore Loan, Edinburgh 13.

## MORTGAGES BROUGHT INTO LINE

n the moment that the Bank of England's minimum lending went to 17 per cent and the Government announced major rises in the interest rates on personal savings to come in the Year it was inevitable that building societies would put their mortgage rates. It is a sensitive issue for the moment. The need of the first-time home buyer in particular cause political conflict in addition for many, the inevitable increase in mortgage payments will substantially cancel out the benefit of year's income tax cuts.

Some voices, even within theervative party, are already saying that developments of this on the financial front are wing the Government's omic strategy off course. fact of the matter, however, at the stabilization of the any and the succeeding out of inflation and inflationary ex-

## BACK TO BOYCOTTS

said that the first consequence of the Government's "initial initiative" in Northern Ireland is the resignation of Mr Gerry Fitt from his party's central bodies have rejected it. At Sunningdale the SDLP, reinforced by the Irish Prime Minister, exacted the Council of Ireland as part of the price for its cooperation. At its convention only a few weeks ago it was still laying heavy emphasis on "Irish dimension" and progress towards the unification of Ireland. Perhaps Mr Atkins was advised, contrary to the general impression, that the SDLP was no longer insisting on that element in any new political arrangements. Certainly Mr Lynch in Dublin has recently allowed the Irish dimension to drop from the vocabulary of his immediate demands. Anyway, the White Paper explicitly excluded Irish unity and confederation and independence as subjects for discussion at the conference, and on the day of its publication Mr Atkins went even further to block discussion of nationalist aspirations. No doubt

SDLP, though not easily sectarian, has the main place for the Catholic/Unionist vote. While opposing unionism in front it has opposed republicanism behind. So long as John Hume acts as leader it is a fair assurance that will remain the position.

freedom in Pakistan

Mr Howard Coats

Pakistan's ruling junta is now the nose and the lash against the section of society in the ruling stepped-up martial law down it launched on October 12. Apparently realising that these political parties were by symptom and not the cause of the country's malady, the current is moving against a split from politicians and nationalists to demonstrate its gh in a bid to halt, if not the drift to an uncertain

to weeks after writing these, Salamat Ali, Pakistan Correspondent of the Hong Kong-based *Eastern Economic Review*, was a from his home at midnight, a journalist held in high regard as fair and balanced accounts Pakistan's current political and economic realities, at the time of his arrest. He is presently appealing his detention. He has been transferred from police custody, brought to a military court (though no was preferred) and now is his fate under martial law actions in the courts. The

pectation is inevitably a painful process. There is no point in pretending otherwise. With the underlying level of inflation at its present level, with the Government's borrowing requirement so high, and with the trend of the increase in the money supply so clearly above the required target, interest rates must rise sharply as the result of a policy designed to put things right. To complain when the inevitable occurs is illogical and politically feeble.

Indeed it was almost certainly a mistake for the Prime Minister to put pressure on the building societies in the summer to hold back an impending increase and for the building societies to have given in to that pressure. Such distortions in the structure of interest rates for political reasons seldom serve any effective or lasting purpose. Even with a nominal interest rate of 15 per cent, mortgagors are bor-

rowing money on which they are paying in real terms a negative rate of interest of some 5 per cent. If the Government are to maintain a credible economic posture, there is no way in which such borrowers can be given any further advantage.

The present situation only serves to underline the fact that in the past decade the building societies have become an integral part of the country's financial structure. Collectively they now have larger deposits than the clearing banks. These deposits have equally become increasingly volatile and sensitive to changes in relative interest rates. The consequence is that the building societies will have to become an increasing concern of the Treasury and the Bank of England, going way beyond their traditional function as savers and loan institutions for home purchase.

this was judged necessary if unionist politicians were to be brought under starter's orders; but now the nationalist horse has bolted.

The SDLP decision has eased the position in which Mr James Moynihan's Unionists had placed themselves. They have so far spurned Mr Atkins's endeavours and said they will not enter the conference. They have their reasons, but they have put themselves in a bad light over here, where people have difficulty in understanding how the party of supposedly moderate unionism can refuse even to negotiate on the basis of an agenda which is unmistakably favourable to the preservation of the union. Their posture has somewhat affected the stage lighting so as to leave the Rev Ian Paisley, band outstretched in benediction, bathed in a soft glow of compromise. Unreality was taking over. Now it looks as if Mr Moynihan will be able to protest that his estimate of Mr Atkins's conference was right all along.

law authorities that a gross error of judgment has been made. The world is that Salamat Ali will appear before a military tribunal on November 28. It is possible that after then protest will be too late.

Yours faithfully, HOWARD COATS, Managing Editor, *Far Eastern Economic Review*, Hong Kong, November 22.

## Cutting down to size

From Lord Ferrier and Lord Byers

Sir, Having had time to assess and approve the statue of Earl Atlee in the Members Lobby of the House of Commons, we contend that it serves to emphasise that the Lloyd-George statue is so completely out of scale, is beyond the skills of present-day technology to have "L.G." recast to fit—otherwise identical in every respect? This would serve to correct this obvious imbalance in a very important Chamber of the Palace of Westminster.

We are, Sir, yours etc, FERRIER, BYERS, House of Lords.







# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

Of mice  
and  
spacemen,  
page 17

All your gift problems solved with  
**VICTORIA WINE**  
**CHRISTMAS GIFT TOKENS**  
From 11p upwards in 10p increments  
throughout Britain—see Yellow Pages for your  
nearest branch.  
• A credit note and envelope with every token.  
• Easy to give.  
• A thoughtful gift for a wide range of tastes, ages,  
sexes, interests and budgets.

**Stock markets**  
FT 100 411.0, down 2.0  
FT 100 411.0, down 2.0  
FT 100 411.0, down 2.0

**Sterling**  
\$2.1750, up 10 points  
Index 69.6, unchanged

**Dollar**  
Index 66.6, up 0.2

**Gold**  
\$393 an ounce, down \$3.75

**3-month money**  
Inter-bank 17 to 17½  
Euro \$ 14½ to 14½

### IN BRIEF

### ethylene plant underway t last

IP Chemicals and ICI's first 6, a joint venture which has the largest single petrochemical plant built in Britain, started production of ethylene more than two years late and at a cost of more than £10m. Completion has been delayed by design and equipment problems, high intensity and poor production on site, bad weather and 'lorry drivers' strike. The plant is due to start production in 1980.

**Gas turbine project**  
E Turbine Components, a subsidiary of the Associated Engineering Group, is to invest in over the next four years building a precision casting plant at Garforth near Leeds. The plant is due to start production in 1980.



**Confusing day in Singapore**  
Mr Richard (Farthing), the British businessman sentenced to six months' imprisonment under the Communist Act again decided to his sentence rather than for his appeal. At one it appeared he might be returned to Britain for his appeal, but a judge decided not to restore his pass.

**Steelworks site sale**  
British Steel and Salford Grange jointly plan to sell the 200-acre site of the former steel works in Salford. The price is expected to be £25,000 an acre. The steel works were closed five years ago, leaving 5,000 workers redundant.

**Shipping frauds**  
Shipping frauds have occurred on a 'vast scale' in the Far East according to a report published yesterday. At least 28 ships have been lost in suspicious circumstances in the last year.

**Minister's complaint**  
Britain has some of the most industrial management in the world, yet its average performance is less than some other countries, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, said in London yesterday.

**Gas Egyptian order**  
William Press has won a contract worth more than £50m to supply gas to four suburbs of Cairo.

**Japan shuns the dollar**  
Japan has asked Japanese traders and oil companies to use their oil bills in Deutsche marks instead of dollars.

## Manufacturing investment shows downturn of 2.5pc over six months

By Caroline Atkinson

Further evidence of an imminent recession with a drop in business spending came yesterday with the publication of official figures for companies' investment and stockbuilding. Although these showed a rise in manufacturing investment in the three months to September, this was not enough to bring manufacturing investment back up to its level in the first quarter of this year.

Comparing the latest six months with the preceding half-year, manufacturing investment has fallen by 2.5 per cent. This figure is a guide to the underlying trend. Overall investment was 1 per cent more in real terms in the third quarter of this year than in the second. However, the Government expects private investment to drop between this year and next.

Official forecasts also suggest a big reduction in stocks held by industry next year. The figures published yesterday show that manufacturing industry was still building up its stocks in the third quarter, although wholesalers cut their stocks by 580m at 1975 prices—the biggest reduction since the middle of 1975.

As the Government's tight monetary policies begin to bite, industry is likely to cut back sharply its spending on investment and stockbuilding. The Department of Industry's latest investment intentions survey indicates a fall of up to 3 per cent in investment this year.

Within the total of manufacturing investment, spending on new building work has fallen by 14 per cent on a monthly basis and the plant and machinery has dropped by 2 per cent.

Spending on vehicles has, on the other hand, jumped by 20 per cent.

Recent investment figures have been distorted by the growth of leasing. This means that some investment which will be used in manufacturing industry is shown as part of the investment of service industries. The latter was about 8 per cent higher in the first three quarters of this year than in the corresponding period of 1978. The biggest increase came in spending on plant and machinery.

Manufacturing stocks rose by £190m (1975 prices) in the three months to September. Stocks of finished goods accounted for £140m of this. There was a rise in the ratio of stocks to output during the quarter, but this was almost entirely because of the drop in manufacturing production.

forces pushing up the Government's need to borrow from the market, its own receipts have been falling below expectations, mostly because of delays caused by strikes. In particular, the Post Office has, it is estimated, cost the Government £1,000m because telephone bills have not been sent out on time. Of this sum, £500m is expected during the rest of this financial year and £400m in the next.

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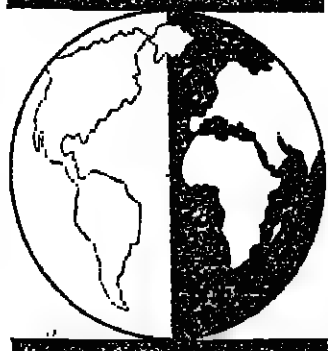
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## East Berlin trade talks show bright prospects

Mr R. A. Browning, Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Trade, and leader of the British delegation to the Anglo-East German trade talks in Berlin saw good prospects for at least doubling trade with East Germany.

He based his forecast on the good prospects for orders for British companies such as GKN, Davy International, Cementation, Courtaulds and Babcock.

Mr Browning said the main emphasis of cooperation would be in engineering, mainly automotive; chemical industry; metallurgy and microprocessors.

### Oil prices warning

Attempts to shield countries' economies from the full impact of rising oil prices were bound to fail, Mr Fritz Honegger, the Swiss Economy Minister, told the ministerial council meeting of the seven-nation European Free Trade Association yesterday.

### Expanding Far East

Falling air fares are expected to make the Far East and the Pacific one of the biggest growth areas for tourism in the 1980s, Mr Keith Riddle, general manager of British Los Angeles.

### US crude production

Daily production of crude oil by United States petroleum companies totalled 8,706,000 barrels in the week ending November 21, the American Petroleum Institute has reported.

### Fokker-Japan project

Mr Francois Swartouw, chairman of Vliegtuigfabriek Fokker NV, said in Tokyo that his company was pressing Japan to participate with Fokker and United States companies on a medium haul twin-jet airliner project, called the F29. Boeing would have a 12 per cent share in the venture.

### S African trade up

South Africa had a favourable trade balance of 1,803.4m rand (about £590m) in the first 10 months of this year, compared with 603.5m rand in the corresponding period last year, according to the preliminary statement of trade statistics released by the Department of Customs and Excise, imports during January to October were 8,804.2m rand compared with 5,230.5m.

### Tokyo fuel reserves

Fears of fuel shortages in Japan this year were ruled out at a ministerial energy saving measure council meeting presided over by Mr Masayoshi Ohira, the Prime Minister, a government spokesman said. Japan's oil stockpiles have reached 441 million barrels or more than 100 days consumption.

## Sting Ray challenge in technological and project management skills

### Torpedo contractors will run a tight ship

By Kenneth Owen  
Technology Editor

The Ministry of Defence's £200m contract for the Sting Ray anti-submarine torpedo, awarded recently to Marconi Space and Defence Systems, poses a challenge combining advanced technology and project management.

In technology, it is claimed to be four to five years ahead of work in the United States; in project management, a MoD incentive contract is reflected in the discipline Marconi aims to impose on its subcontractors. Development leading to the Sting Ray began 10 years ago and has cost about £90m. The new contract is for final development and initial production; including possible MoD production orders over the next 10 years, the eventual cost of the programme could be about £800m at today's prices.

"Sting Ray will be the weapon on which our anti-submarine forces will be dependent in future for their effectiveness," declared Lord Strathairn, Minister of State for Defence. "In the coming financial year Sting Ray will cost only some 1 per cent of the defence equipment budget, less than half of 1 per cent of the defence budget as a whole, and about 7 per cent of our

total anti-submarine warfare costs. It represents good value for money."

The name "torpedo" with its connotations of white sweaters, periscopes, and trails of bubbles on the surface, is misleading. Sting Ray is designed to be launched from aeroplanes, helicopters and ships and to reach its target by sonar sensing cutting through the confusion caused by enemy counter-measures, and manoeuvring.

Marconi Space and Defence Systems (MSDS), a GEC-Marconi company, is the prime contractor for the weapon and will develop the special-purpose guidance computer. Marconi Avionics will build part of the guidance system and actuator systems for the steering will be made by Sperry Gyroscope.

Chloride Industrial Batteries will supply the electric battery, an extremely powerful unit activated by sea water as the missile hits the surface. Lucas Aerospace provides the electric motors for propulsion, and auxiliary power supplies. Plessey is developing advanced large-scale integration (LSI) memory units for the computer.

"As far as I'm concerned," says Mr Arthur Walsh, managing director of MSDS, "everything on this torpedo will be put

out to tender." There will be at least two sources of supply for everything except the final assembly at MSDS.

Sting Ray will provide work for between 4,000 and 5,000 people, amounting to more than 50,000 man-hours. The main centres are Basildon, Rochester, Kidsgrove, Stanmore, Hillend, Portsmouth, Willemsen, Hemel Hempstead, Plymouth, Bracknell, Manchester and Trowbridge.

"Mr Sting Ray" at Marconi is Mr Don Evans, a director of all the company's underwater weapons work. He is assisted on the project by his deputy, Mr John Wright, and by Mr Andrew Glasgow, technical manager.

The trio believe in "healthy constraints and pressures", carefully defined and documented, to keep their suppliers (including the relevant parts of Marconi itself) up to the mark on quality and cost. The MoD contract with Marconi provides incentives to complete development and the first production batch as quickly and economically as possible.

Marconi and the ministry are sharing the financial risk. A target cost has been set, on the basis of which an agreed level of profit will be paid. If the actual costs prove greater or smaller than the target, the

difference will be shared. At each stage in the programme, bonuses will be paid if time is saved or specified performance is exceeded.

Don Evans is determined that potential delays and problems during the Sting Ray programme shall not be obscured by a lack of information. "Every piece of information I have, my opposite number in the Ministry of Defence has."

His opposite number is Rear Admiral Tony Murphy, special project director, and information is regularly exchanged in fortnightly presentations at which key managers report on progress. "There is no discussion," says Mr Evans. "Admiral Murphy and I ask questions."

Mr Walsh is convinced that the experience gained in writing the software for the Sting Ray control system will help GEC in applying computerized control to industrial processes. Commercial spin-off is envisaged, also, from the low-power consumption memory micro-circuits being developed by Plessey.

Beyond the British defence requirement, export prospects for the new missile appear good—provided the lead in technology is maintained and the intended strong project management is achieved.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Training the young for industry

From Miss Daphne Hampton

Sir, I agree with the statement made by the chairman of the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) in his recent speech that the recruitment of young people to the construction industry is falling.

A serious shortage of skilled labour exists in all industries and the only answer to the dilemma is for employers to train more young people in craft and technical occupations than they are doing at present. Many companies are willing to do this, but they must have financial support—and it is not forthcoming.

In recent years the Manpower Services Commission (MSC) has offered recruitment grants (through training boards) to encourage employers to recruit apprentices above their normal intake. But applications have always exceeded the money available, with the result that allocation has been on a "first come—first served" basis. My

own company, for instance, has taken on several school-leavers this year above our usual requirement and we are number 253 on the Recruitment Grant Scheme waiting list.

Yet the MSC will be reducing the funds that have hitherto been available to training boards for the additional recruitment of young persons. Sadly the reduction comes at a time when the need for training more school-leavers, and ultimately increasing the number of skilled workers, is overwhelming.

Every extra permanent training opportunity provided is one less unemployed young person—and one more young person with a future. Surely, this aspect should be paramount when the MSC is considering the best way to use its resources for the benefit of all unemployed school-leavers.

Yours faithfully,  
DAPHNE HAMPTON,  
Managing Director,  
Hampton Furniture Limited,  
Stratton Road,  
Swindon,  
Wiltshire SN1 2PS.

### No help given in cutting out oil use

From Mr R. J. G. Rait

Sir, The previous Labour government introduced several conservation schemes for industry, and these have been continued by the present Government. However, the criteria one has to satisfy to qualify for a grant are so restrictive that I imagine the Department of Industry has had a problem finding suitable beneficiaries.

The example affecting my present employers is as follows. The Energy Conservation Scheme states that if you can prove that your existing oil-fired boiler is less than 70 per cent efficient the government will give you a grant towards replacement of that boiler by another more efficient oil-fired boiler. The idea of this scheme appears to be to encourage people to use oil more efficiently and therefore to use less of it, rather than switch to an alternative fuel.

The firm I am employed by is a chipboard furniture manufacturer. The firm has decided to invest in a total system that will convert all waste material and offcuts into fuel. This, to a company of our size, is a very considerable investment, but it will mean that our oil consumption will not be reduced—it will be totally eradicated.

However, because the firm is not replacing an inefficient oil-fired system with another more efficient oil burner, it does not qualify for government assistance. I cannot understand the logic behind the rules for this grant.

I have written to the Department of Energy, the Department of Industry and the local MP and have received a remarkable amount of sympathy and remarkably little else. I would be interested to know if other people attempting to save fuel have been confronted by the same bureaucratic nonsense.

Yours faithfully,  
R. J. G. RAIT,  
Production Director,  
Shannon Furniture Limited,  
Sewley,  
Staffordshire  
Dorset SP7 5AH,  
November 13.

### Information recorded by telephone meters

From Mr Norman P. Macdonald

Sir, Your correspondent Mr John Murphy (November 19) deserves congratulations for having been able to persuade the Post Office, who, in my experience, are almost invariably uncooperative, to identify fictitious telephone calls.

Not long ago, on returning from a period of residence in the United States, I asked the Post Office why the information which I had become accustomed to find on telephone bills there (similar to that available to Mr John E. Barham in Brussels (November 20) could not be provided here. The answer I received was as follows:

"I am sorry but we do not know the full details of the telephone system used in the United States and are therefore unable to comment as to why the same system is not used in this country."

The British Post Office system in its present form can only record calls on a cyclical-type meter and aggregate a total of units.

The meter at the exchange is connected only to your line

and readings are taken quarterly as with electricity units. They are regularly tested as routine work by our engineers and found to be accurate. Your meter was tested on November 13, and found to be working satisfactorily.

"If I may again draw an analogy with electricity units, it would not be possible for you to be given details of the proportion of units consumed in a quarter by specific electrical equipment; equally, it is not possible for us to tell you the proportion of units you have used during the quarter on any specific rate or call."

Perhaps the Post Office may consider investing some of the profits now made on the telephone service in substituting new equipment for what is clearly an out-of-date type of meter for recording the origin, destination and duration of telephone calls.

Yours faithfully,  
NORMAN P. MACDONALD,  
The Mount,  
South Street,  
Mayfield,  
Sussex.

### Communications in EMI

From Sir John Read, Chairman of the EMI Group

Sir, Mr News, Woodhouse is less than fair in his letter of November 15 concerning the recent suspension of EMI News.

It is true that publication of our monthly newspaper has been suspended on grounds of economy—as one of a number of measures taken by EMI to reduce costs—but it is not true to suggest that EMI is unconcerned about the need to communicate facts about the group's affairs to its employees.

Over the last 10 years much

effort has been given to the development of employee communication within EMI, including the production of regular financial reports and video programmes for all the group's companies worldwide. In particular, great emphasis has been placed upon the holding of fact-finding briefing groups on a widespread basis, and priority continues to be given to this activity.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN READ,  
EMI Group of Companies,  
20, Manchester Square,  
London W1A 1ES,  
November 20.

### Beer duty decision awaited

From the chairman, Board of Customs and Excise

Sir, In his letter (November 21) Mr Robert J. Horowitz says that because the United Kingdom duty on a gallon of wine is much higher than that on a gallon of beer the European Court has ruled that Britain has failed to comply with Article 95 of the EEC treaty.

This is not true. A case law effect has been brought by the Commission and has been contested by the United Kingdom Government. The hearing took place on October 9. The European Court has yet to pronounce judgment.

Yours faithfully,  
DOUGLAS LOVELOCK,  
Board Room,  
HM Customs and Excise,  
King's Beam House,  
Mark Lane,  
London EC3R 7TH,  
November 21.

### Unfair

From Mr Oliver Henry

Sir, On page 28 of the brave new Times (November 13) a headline states: "Banking groups far out of the first day back."

Yours faithfully,  
OLIVER HENRY,  
1 Buttermere Gardens,  
Alresford,  
Hampshire SO24 9NN,  
November 14.

## UK may build US-designed pressurized water reactor

By Nicholas Hirst

A Government statement committing Britain to build an American-designed pressurized water reactor provided it passes a safety study and a public inquiry, is to be made soon, Mr Glyn England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, believes.

It was a reactor of the PWR type which was involved in the accident at Three Mile Island, which has been asked for by the end of this month, but it should make his announcement before Parliament rises for Christmas.

If a PWR is ordered in 1982, as expected, it is likely to be the first of many in order to meet energy demand in the year 2000 a more rapid ordering programme will be needed. Once a PWR had passed a safety case and a public inquiry, if the price compared favourably with the AGR, the CEBG could order another in 1982 and a further PWR in 1983. It will not be necessary in the board's view to have operating experience of the PWR in this country before making repeat orders.

A new structure for the nuclear industry has not been worked out in detail. The CEBG wants a National Nuclear Corporation to end its three-tier structure, for GEC to withdraw from its management contract and for a normal company board to be set up with executive directors. However, the board is unable to agree the details of how this should be

done, as the composition of the members' shareholding is likely to remain unchanged.



Mr Glyn England, CEBG chairman, Government urged to maintain present nuclear strategy.

## Manpower unit growth attacked

By John Huxley

The Manpower Services Commission (MSC) was yesterday attacked for its "profligate" expansion during a time when it had failed to meet industry's training needs.

Weaknesses in the present training system stemmed largely from the failure of the MSC to provide the necessary stable, long-term framework for industrial training boards, the

Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors said.

At the same time, the Commission had expanded its own organisation "in a manner which can only be described as profligate". The contractors say that to place renewed emphasis on the accountability of the training boards to their industries, boards should be responsible directly to the Secretary of State for Employment, not to the MSC.

Training has become subordinated to "the implementation of short-term cosmetic Government social programmes. The current skill shortages and continued failure adequately to solve the unemployment problem."

The federation has asked the Government to consider ways of funding construction training so that all users of building skills contribute.

## BSC to cut 2,300 jobs at Port Talbot

By Tim Jones

The British Steel Corporation is planning to cut 2,300 jobs in its Port Talbot plant as part of its effort to meet Government pressure to break even by next March. It is understood that the cuttings will be made in a way that would be unacceptable.

The Port Talbot plant lost £30m last year but is currently getting a near £100m investment in a new continuous casting plant.

More than 1,200 blast furnacemen at the Northamptonshire plant yesterday called for a national strike over the ending of iron and steel-making at Corby next year.

The five other unions at the plant want to start an overtime ban and a series of 24-hour selective strikes instead.

### Call for a less autocratic style of management

By Michael Bailly

Management participation is vital in modern industry, Mr Victor Paige, chairman-designate of the Port of London Authority, said yesterday.

Mr Paige, who is deputy chairman of the National Freight Corporation (NFC), said yesterday: "Although it is still possible to be both successful and autocratic, the game is changing and those who doubt it should look to the schools where tomorrow's work force is being educated."

Presenting prizes for an employee competition at the NFC, Mr Paige added: "Attitudes to authority can be expected to change faster now than in the past, and managers must respond. To be successful in the future, managers and supervisors must be able to establish participative relationships and to demonstrate their sensitivity to the views and aspirations of those working for them."

### State to review Companies Act insolvency rules

By Stephen Goodwin

Parliamentary Staff

The Government proposes to review two sections of the Companies Act 1948 which deal with offences over the winding up of a business. This is to be done in the light of the comprehensive study of insolvency being carried out by Sir Kenneth Cork and his committee.

Announcing the review to the Commons standing committee considering the Companies Bill, Mr Reginald Eyre, Under-Secretary for Trade, said the committee's report was expected towards the end of 1980. It was hoped to incorporate some of its recommendations in a second Companies Bill proposed for 1980-81.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Profits under pressure

With money markets remaining nervous, and certainly less confident now about an early fall in M.L.R. institutional and foreign investors gave the Government's new short/medium stock a wide berth yesterday.

The gilt market did rally towards the close, however, on the recessionary implications of the latest Government forecasts for the economy. Not that the market is going to take too seriously a forecast that is so heavily hedged about with qualifications.

Will consumer spending really rise in the first half of next year? If not, will companies be able to destock as fast as the Treasury expects? And, if the fall in GDP is as sharp as supposed, will it really be possible to hold the PSBR at roughly the same proportion of GDP, at least without further public spending cuts?

Either way, the outlook appears none too bright for the corporate sector—and recent company results are none too encouraging either.

### ICI Help from Ninian

Third quarter figures from ICI look healthy enough, as far as they go, though the rise from £105m to £155m pre-tax this time was due in part to the absence of the 22m exchange loss recorded in the corresponding quarter. Both sales and profits, however, were down against those recorded in the second quarter of the year, reflecting a decline in volume (by roughly 8 per cent overall, with Western Europe showing a particularly sharp decline of around 16 per cent), which the management attributes in part to seasonal factors, and in part to the second quarter bulge which followed the aspen strike.

Overall, prices have risen by roughly 5 per cent, but raw material costs and wages at any rate in the UK have risen a lot more. So one way and another the immediate prospects look none too promising.

The share price, nevertheless, rose by 5p yesterday to 357p. Here, the prospective dividend (assuming that the total dividend is the 15 per cent recorded at the first interim) is 8.8 per cent, which in historic terms is highly attractive; but the real test in ICI lies in neither the yield nor a prospect for full year profits of up to 50m (as against £421m) pre-tax: it lies in the fact that a sizable part of this year's profits, and a still more sizable part of next, will come from oil.

Ninian contributed around £19m (after income tax, revenue tax) to third quarter profits, bringing the total contribution from ICI to around £30m so far in the year. In respect for ICI's traditional industries, it is still worth buying.

### Becham temporarily off course

In one of the great growth stocks of the past two decades, Becham, looks a little tired at the edges now. After six months' 1979-80 profits are 104 per cent down £65m after a 124 per cent sales gain. The market responded by taking a further off the shares at 119p where the sort of things expected—a yield of around 7 per cent and a p/e ratio of perhaps 10—demonstrate how some of the glitter has been shed off Becham's market status.

The temptation is to think one should buy on the view that this could be the best security for years to go on board a stock like this. That could be right. Becham has problems, at the moment; pharmaceutical sales worldwide have been down in the absence of much infectious sickness; Iran, a valuable growth market, has badly drifted, and the combination of cost controls and competition has affected gains.

Moreover, there is some evidence, notably the United States, that Becham has been losing market share in pharmaceuticals at hands of its rivals.

Consumer products business has held up, though Becham has spent heavily in the United States (some £6m net of sales) on Aqua-fresh toothpaste launch, with some

success, though, since it now claims 11 per cent of the United States market.

This sort of spending together with the £105m United Kingdom expansion programme across the product range augers well for the mid-1980s.

### Renold Into the recession

As an engineering pointer Renold could not have been expected to come through the strike earlier this year unscathed. Interim profits drop have been more than halved to £2.4m on a sales fall of 9 per cent to £60.5m.

The hope had been that Renold could avoid the worst by running off its high stocks, but the strike affected deliveries badly. Dock deliveries were not too seriously damaged though with the result that United States profits have fallen only slightly at the operating level to £5m in spite of the dollar's weakness. British operating profits, however, slumped two-thirds to £1.2m.

Renold should be able to recoup some lost ground in the second half but in the face of deteriorating market conditions profits are unlikely to be much above £7m for the full year against last year's £10m. This suggests a p/e ratio of around nine with the shares unchanged at 88p yesterday and although the interim dividend has been lifted fractionally a cut in the final must be possible.

Something like three-fifths of Renold's working capital is tied up in stocks while gearing at possibly 30 per cent is relatively high for an engineer. These are not the best ratios with which to enter a period of rising inflation and deepening recession but Renold's current—its historic yield of 17 per cent—is taking the worst possible view—and that may not be fully justified.

### Courtaulds Through a glass darkly

Courtaulds, meanwhile, is still gazing through a glass darkly, but it is plainly not expecting much help on the trading front for at least the next year. But it would be doing the group less than justice not to give it the benefit of the doubt that the restructuring going on apace for some time now will eventually work through to profitability.

When is another matter and until then profits are going to be as uninspiring as the half-time figures yesterday. Pre-tax profits rose by a tenth to £30.2m, benefiting by some £2.3m from loss elimination on plant closures, although exactly where the reorganization costs will fall will have to wait until the year end.

The strength of the pound continues to be a major headache for a group that exports more than half its £445m United Kingdom turnover, and if sterling had not strengthened Courtaulds estimates profits would have been £10-15m higher.

Imports, especially from low-cost countries like the United States, have bitten deeply into the United Kingdom fibre side where volume dipped 5 per cent although the low raw material cost advantage in cellulosics has helped to keep up margins, but thanks to the stronger overseas showing fibre profits are up overall.

Further down the line, fabrics have shown a slightly better trend across the board with the protection from the Davignon Agreement and the multi-fibre arrangement still helping. At the retail end the early upturn had petered out by July and the problems here have spilled over into the second half.

Even with a tough trading climate, Courtaulds financial position appears to be under control with the capital spending programme pared back slightly and working capital showing no unexpected jump, so that the cash outflow this year will be only around £10m.

The second-half is unlikely to be as good as last year's so full year profits look like emerging at a little over £60m and to maintain the gross the net dividend has been raised by 4 per cent which suggests confidence of a sort to support the shares at 80p.

Unfair competition is threatening an industry which has already halved its workforce in 10 years. Ronald Kershaw reports

Wool being sorted for length and fineness: the industry carries over £400m from exports.

## Wool textiles still beset by problems

Britain's wool textile industry is facing one of the most critical periods in its history. Each week hundreds of jobs are being lost and this year alone some 14,000 jobs have been lost.

Quite modern factories are closing with distressing regularity as companies are forced out of business by economic stringencies.

The industry desperately needs help and today the Confederation of British Wool Textiles will hold a high level meeting at Bradford, Britain's wool capital, to examine the industry's problems and seek solutions. It will be attended by the all-party committee of wool textile MPs, European MPs, metropolitan councils in wool textile areas, and unions in the industry.

At the risk of oversimplification, the industry's situation may be summarised thus. After a decade of enthusiastic co-operation in government policies, adherence to government guidelines, industrial peace, heavy company investment, and an invaluable contribution to the country's balance of payments, the industry finds itself faced with unfair competition from within and without, the EEC, crippling statutory charges on its depleted reserves, rocketing interest rates, and a lack of government aid—and nobody in government prepared to come to the rescue.

Indeed, judging from the attitude of government spokesmen in the last week's textile debate, one might have been excused had one thought the industry was being told it had been featherbedded long enough and should now get going and become competitive.

Ten years ago the number of people employed in wool textiles, including managers, directors, and the like, was 142,000. Today there are 71,300. In common with the rest of British industry wool textiles was told to rationalize, increase productivity and generally become more vital.

The wool textile industry thinks it has done a fair job. Government schemes were introduced to ease the change and under the 1972 Industry Act a special wool textile fund gave the industry £15m for grants towards new plant and machinery, building works, reorganization and rationalization.

The provisions of the scheme were varied through the years. For instance, firms were actually paid to go out of business and redundancy payments enhanced with modest government help.

In all, the cash requirement amounted to some £16.5m, says Mr Peter Richardson, director of the Wool Textile Delegation. A second scheme tended to encourage an encouraging rationalization through mergers and amalgamations. This was



Wool being sorted for length and fineness: the industry carries over £400m from exports.

started at £5m and eventually cost the government a little over £7m.

The total over a period of five years amounted to about £25m for an industry which today carries £400m from exports with additional earnings from indirect exports.

Suggestions that the Government has pumped money into the industry bring a quick rejoinder from Mr Richardson that the Government money generated something like £100m to £120m of investment by companies in the industry which he reckons was a good response from a fairly small sector, which is made up of some 2 per cent of the manufacturing workforce.

The basic problem of the British wool textile industry is that it cannot compete on price with overseas manufacturers. Low-cost labour countries which flood the home market are one problem. Subsidized wool textile industries in developed European countries are another.

Many people in the wool textiles business are suspicious of our European partners' pricing policies. It is often asked if everything that comes through West Germany is from West Germany, or is the country of origin East Germany or Poland, both of which heavily subsidize their industries.

There is the classic case of the wool textile town of Prato near Florence, Italy, which for nearly 30 years has been a thorn in the side of Britain. It exports woollen cloth made from reused woollens at such low cost that it has already virtually destroyed the woollen industries of Holland, Belgium, Germany and Scandinavia.

It is suggested that low labour costs result from Prato being a "cottage" industry, but evidence is being gathered which points to the fact that Prato workers belong to an army of some six million Italians who pay no taxes, no social security, no union dues and officially do not exist.

Political fears of communist domination have led to government action. In the early 1950s Prato exported to Britain 10 to 12 million square metres of woollen cloth. In 1974 it was 19 million square metres; this year it will exceed 50 million square metres.

A European Commission inquiry has been looking into Prato for 11 months but as yet has reached no result.

While trade unions in the industry believe government help in the shape of selective import controls is necessary, some employers take a more cautious view, fearing retaliatory action by countries against whom strict quotas are imposed.

Another big problem is that of effluent charges, which most affect scouring companies in the industry. Water authorities throughout the land have embarked on costly improvement schemes. Costs here to be covered. The polluter must pay the cost of treating his factory effluent and EEC regulations demand that effluent be treated.

Britain is sticking by the new rules and some wool textile companies are facing large effluent charges. One West Yorkshire company alone is faced with a bill of £1m a year.

Nobody is complaining about the desirability of effluent treatment, simply that wool textiles are paying more than their fair share compared with other industries and are having to pay it when other European partners are paying either none at all or vastly reduced sums.

The recent increase in interest rates is another blow the industry could have done well without. Mr Richardson believes few companies can exist without loans. Small companies operating on a return of up to 10 per cent, he says, will simply disappear when a return of at least 20 per cent must be achieved simply to break even.

The wool textile industry does not consider that it is asking for much. It would like the government to extend short-time working compensation rather than end it as is planned. It would welcome a reduction in effluent charges and government should apply pressure in Europe to end unfair practices.

First there were the headstones. Marble suppliers agreed to give PFG a 10 per cent discount, a reduction not available to individual families and one not passed on by PFG to its customers.

Monroy has given PFG until the new year to change its ways or face fines of up to 2.5m francs (£278,000).

Then both shareholders and workers, fearful for their dividends or jobs or both, object to the terms under which PFG has just been taken over by another public utility, a water supply company called Société Lyonnaise des Eaux de l'Éclairage (SLEE).

Both companies contract their services out to local authorities. In hundreds of French towns one company is now responsible for water supply, refuse collection, road-maintenance and now funerals.

When John Nott, the Trade Secretary, sets off today on a trade mission to Iraq and Saudi Arabia he will do so in unusual company. Determined to outdo his Labour predecessors who liked to take with them members of the TUC Economic Council, Nott has gone folksy and so, along with the captains of industry, Nott will be taking Paul Smith, a 17-year-old instrument maker and an AEUW official at GEC Marconi's Chesham plant.

Ross Davies

## Technology

## Of mice and spacemen

"Spin-off" never was the right word to describe the transfer of technology from one sector of the economy to another (except insofar as some ideas go round and around without actually getting anywhere).

Those in the business know that, while such transfer does occur, the technology does not simply spin-off by itself. More often than not, it has to be pushed out, aimed in the right direction, squeezed into the right shape to fit the new use, and pulled in forcibly—all of which can be a difficult and painful experience.

But, while the early exaggerated claims for spin-off may not have been fulfilled, there has been a quiet but continuous flow of innovations which are changing the way we live and work.

One would expect a range of new aerospace materials, processes, manufacturing techniques and computer programs which could be applied fairly directly to other purposes. One might not expect some of the more unusual examples.

In San Francisco, the familiar cable cars, in use since 1873 (though temporarily off the streets), are propelled by continuously moving underground cables which are grasped by a long-handled grip operated by a "gripman" aboard the car. Each cable is spliced to form an endless loop; the splice is the weakest part of the cable and, if gripped, can lead to worn or broken cables.

Previously the gripman did not know when his car was over a splice. Now, a magnetometer technique developed for spacecraft has been applied by engineers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Research Centre near San Francisco to give him a warning.

The section of the cable just ahead of the splice is magnetized and a magnetism sensor is mounted on the gripping device. As the cable splice approaches a stationary car it triggers a whistle-like signal, enabling the gripman to delay gripping until the splice has passed.

You do not have to go as far as San Francisco to see space technology applied to transport. The Board of Commerce's Jetfoil hydrofoil boats, now in service between Brighton and Dieppe, use aerospace technology in a number of ways. Propulsion is by water jet, using Rocketdyne Powerjet pumps which are a direct derivative of the turbopumps used to feed propellants at about 200,000 gallons a minute to the Saturn V rocket used on the Apollo lunar flights.

At least one unexpected secondary use for an expensive

spacecraft testing chamber was discovered at the General Electric (US) laboratories at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The large vacuum chamber was normally used to test the performance of spacecraft under simulated orbital conditions; now it is just as likely to contain a rack of rare but wet books.

A vacuum technique is used to dry books or other documents which have been soaked in storms, floods or by water hoses used in firefighting. Pressure inside the chamber is reduced to one-hundredth of an atmosphere, causing the moisture to evaporate. As it evaporates, it freezes. After 24 hours pressing is initiated, hot from dry air is used to melt the ice, and the water is drained off.

Spin-off is found in sewers as well as in space chambers. Peter Petroff, an ex-NASA engineer in Huntsville, Alabama, has applied aerospace and electronics technology in a device known as a sewer mouse which automatically measures the flow of water in sewers.

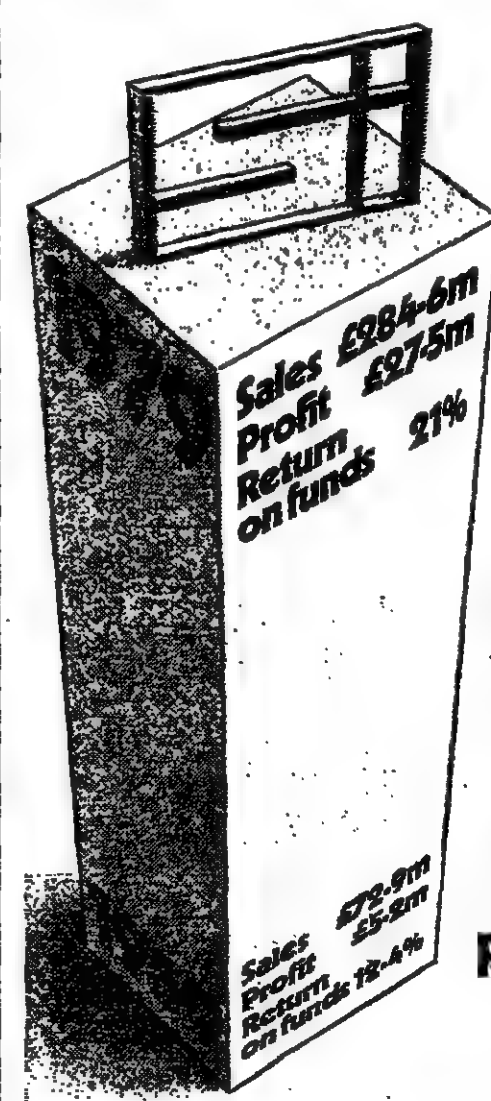
The mouse, so-called because it is shaped like a mouse and has a "tail" of cables connected to a data recorder, houses a pressure-sensitive transducer which senses the depth of water above it. Up to 100 mice (Mr Petroff prefers "mouses") would be used throughout a city's sewer system.

Several aerospace technologies are employed in the sewer mouse: aerodynamics in its shape, a new epoxy material for the transducer housing, miniaturization in packaging the electronic components of the data recorder and satellite-like data acquisition technology.

Among a host of other examples of spin-off are drilling ship positioning systems; insulation of liquid natural gas tankers; vibration testing of nuclear power station equipment to ensure earthquake survival; and an environmental control system used on the Apollo lunar module which has been applied to give a longer transport life for perishable foods.

Aerospace technology has indeed spun off greatly since 1965 when, in a maiden speech in the House of Lords, Lord Wynne-Jones was sceptical about the whole thing. At that time NASA had made much of strengthened bra straps and a new way to produce lemon-squeezers. Four thousand million dollars per annum, his Lordship suggested, was a rather high cost for such products.

Kenneth Owen



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### "1979 another record year of sales and profit"

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The net dividend for the year, 9.75p, represents an increase of 20.5%.

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"Our overseas subsidiaries benefit from the technical and financial support from the U.K. and their results for the year are particularly gratifying with trading profits, in local currencies 70% higher than the previous year."

#### Exports

"Exports increased by 20%."

		1969/70	1977/78	1978/79
SALES	£m	72.9	254.8	284.6
TRADING PROFIT	£m	5.2	24.1	27.5
FUNDS EMPLOYED	£m	42.2	121.2	131.0
RATIOS				
Trading Profit: Sales %		7.2	9.5	9.7
Trading Profit:				
Funds Employed %		12.4	19.9	21.0

Extracts from the Directors' Report and the Review by the Chairman, Mr Roy Sisson, in the Report & Accounts. Copies of this and the Special Report for 1979 are available from the Secretary, Smiths Industries Limited, Cricklewood, London NW2 6JN.

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## Business Diary: Band aid • Drinking for Britain

In Hughes, the board secretary of the Development Unit for Rural Wales, finds himself in the unlikely role of rescuer.

Hughes, who prefers to be called Mr Hughes, is preparing for a big night at the time of the Welsh Wine and Spirit Association, yesterday he came out with an excuse that would appeal to almost everybody except the temperance brigade.

Larvan, a director of wine merchants Hedges & Butler, says that if only we all drank one more glass of wine a week the benefits—not least to Larvan—would be considerable.

First, says he, British per capita consumption of wine is only one and a half glasses a week and so the extra glass would do us no harm. On the other hand, in sending up consumption by two thirds the Chancellor's take (about £500m a year on all alcohol) would go up by an amount that would make him less likely to bang on more duty in the next Budget—thus keeping the price more stable. The French and Italians put away over 20 glasses in a week.

His deputy chairman, Dennis Webb, managing director of Stowell's of Chelsea, then chimed in to say that at least 15,000 more jobs would be created in and around the wine trade.

For the moles among you it would even help the Eastern block, because Bulgaria is one of the countries British merchants would turn to for extra supplies of plonk! Cheers!

Among the widespread membership of the National Federation of Builders, Trade Employers, are many small builders/undertakers. One is called Coffin & Son.

For those of you who are in need of a fresh excuse for having that glass before you ch the train (motorists read

no further), I think I may have stumbled upon something. Having a noggin with Vincent Larvan, the chairman of the Wine and Spirit Association, yesterday he came out with an excuse that would appeal to almost everybody except the temperance brigade.

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The World Bank, Rothschilds, the Think Tank, now helping to run a bus company, is there no stopping Kate Mortimer (is right)? She is part of an injection of young blood into the nationalised transport industries announced yesterday by Transport Minister Norman Fowler.

Miss Mortimer, who is 33, is to join the board of National Bus as a part-time, and 36-year-old Simon Jenkins, political editor of The Economist, becomes a part-time member of the British Railways Board.

Fowler himself is 42, and his junior minister, Kenneth Clarke, is 38.

Miss Mortimer now works for Rothschilds. As editor of the London Evening Standard, Jenkins began the newspaper's commuter campaign.

The British lease on Hong Kong may run out in less than 20 years, but whether or not the crown colony is to revert to communist China, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank mean to carry on business as usual.

The 44-year-old headquarters building which overlooks Statue Square, is to be redesigned and redeveloped over the next five years.

The final design has yet to be approved but it looks as if the two guardian imperialist lions at the entrance of the old building will be preserved. So will the unique canopies on the ceiling of the cathedral-like banking hall. London architects Foster Associates got the job.

Chairman Michael Sandberg says the redevelopment "is an expression both of the bank's commitment to Hong Kong and

of our confidence in Hong Kong's future as an international financial centre."

There is also speculation over whether the approved rebuild building—on a 57,000 sq ft site—will be increased in height to match or surpass the roof of the People's Bank of China.

The Chinese bank's roof was deliberately built to a height of 20ft above the towers of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank as a symbolic warning that of the overriding superiority of China over colonial Hong Kong.

The increased height was approved by the then anti-communist premier, Chiang Kai-Shek, who was ousted by the communists before the rival building was completed.

But the communists endorsed the Kowloon building decision and the finished building still tops its capitalist neighbour.

Other appointments announced yesterday were those of Peter Lenn, 40, a director of Rio Tinto-Zinc, and John Williams, director of the port of Southampton, to the British Transport Docks Board.

Both companies contract their services out to local authorities. In hundreds of French towns one company is now responsible for water supply, refuse collection, road-maintenance and now funerals.

When John Nott, the Trade Secretary, sets off today on a trade mission to Iraq and Saudi Arabia he will do so in unusual company. Determined to outdo his Labour predecessors who liked to take with them members of the TUC Economic Council, Nott has gone folksy and so, along with the captains of industry, Nott will be taking Paul Smith, a 17-year-old instrument maker and an AEUW official at GEC Marconi's Chesham plant.



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## First signs that gilts may be settling down

Gilt edged retreated on fears of labour trouble and Middle East uncertainty, and at one stage losses of up to 1 1/2% were recorded. However, confidence gradually regained confidence after the Treasury's new economic forecasts, and by the close all the ground lost had been regained. Last night gilt edged observers were saying that the market was at last settling down, and some were heralding a rally towards Christmas.

Among shares the clutch of big company news did not have too hard an impact. Assessments of the ICI figures were complicated by special items in the preceding second quarter.

London Merchant Securities hardened a further 1p to 116p after jumping 3p the day before. Buyers still see something to be made through LMS's stake in concern with an interest in the 7 block embracing the Tiffani, Thelma and Tony fields. The group is already rated highly as a trust with an impeccable property underpinning, but the oil is a bonus.

The big disappointment was Bochem whose 10.5 per cent drop in interim profits prompted some dealers to suggest that this great group had gone ex-growth and that it was time to look at Glaxo, said to have a more promising range of new drugs. The news from House of Fraser was also disappointing. Here, the crash in profits was severe. The FT index fell 2.0 to 411.0.

Leading industrialists showed little activity ahead of yesterday's long awaited figures from ICI, Becton and Courtaulds and even less afterwards. ICI figures were much in line with best market expectations, mainly as a result of the group's share in the Ninian Field and were duly marked up where they finished the day at 357p. But a question mark continues to hang over the group's industrial side which has been struggling and a

reversal of the share price is not ruled out in some quarters. Figures from Courtaulds were well received by the market helped also by a maintained dividend. The shares advanced 2p to 80p. News from Becton was less favourably received and the price retreated 11p to 119p. Elsewhere, Glaxo slid 7p to 396p, Fisons dipped 5p to 234p and Pilkington shed 2p to 246p. Rank Organisation eased a penny to 181p while Unilever remained firm at 436p.

Oil shares continued to dominate the rest of the equity market particularly those with interest concentrated in the North Sea. Oil Exploration leapt a further 2p to 748p still awaiting the mystery bidder, while treated 2p to 364p. Oil Explorations' possible merger partner Lasso, which had expected third party to reveal all yesterday, also jumped 2p to 388p on rumours that it was attracting a possible bid from ICI. Tricentral put on a further 10p to 273 following Wednesday's more than doubled third quarter report while Imperial Continental Gas spurred 25p to 625p.

News of a big oil find west of Claymore boosted International Thomson 23p to 382p and Cawoods gained 15p to 163p. National Carbinising advanced of late remained firm at 115p. Shell advanced 2p to 346p, Ultramar 8p to 115p while higher profits at Century Oils boosted the shares 10p to 115p.

Among companies reporting, Akroyd & Smithers rose 12p to 208p after excellent full year figures and Powell Duffry advanced 15p to 140p after figures better than most estimates disappointing. News from Redland were helped by accompanying news of a scrip issue which helped the shares 2p to 165p and M. J. Gleeson was 3p better at 36p. A profits scrip at Alfred Dunhill saw the shares dive 5p to 333p and competitors Rothmans International 11p to 471p after its interim trading statement.

Pauls & Whites slid 4p to 114p. In stores, third quarter figures from House of Fraser were greeted with 3p slide to 111p. Burton shares eventually held Wednesday's gain following the franchisement announcement at 258p, but the "A" shed 2p to 222p. Marks & Spencer and Mothercare both remained firm at 86p and 172p.

The recent rise in Furness Withy after Eurocanadians announcement that it was dispersing its stake came to a halt with the shares unchanged at 240p and Milford gave up 2p to 173p. Rumours that Ladbroke was about to win back its gaming licence did little for the shares firm at 149p as Coral Leisure slipped 1p to 73p.

On the bid from Monfort Knitting put on 3p to 88p and news that Palma Investment had taken a 12 per cent stake and that the group intended to reject an earlier bid from David Brown. Stroud Riley were 18p stronger at 40p after the announcement that a private

concern had taken a substantial stake. Thora Electrical finished the day 4p up at 302p after dipping to 296p early on and EMI moved 2p to 134p. Rumours continued to affect GEC which shed 1p to 328p and Avtrix which finished the same amount lower at 233p. Whessoe held firm at 128p but Costain were 2p easier at 132p. British

Baker Perkins is now 80p, having moved quickly up from the 1978-79 "low" of 77p. The "high" was 139p. Rumours of a John Brown bid have faded, but there is an investment case based on profits up from £2.14m to £3.66m in five years, a 50 per cent increase in sales and employee and board confidence in further growth this year. A recent rights issue means that this is one engineer unlikely to go short in the coming months.

Vita currently in talks with Vita-Tex advance 3p to 128p while the latter remained unchanged at 71p. In Electricals, speculation

pushed up the price of Gripco 6p to 118p and J. Hewitt increased 6p to 40p. But interim figures from Sater saw the share price shed 1p to 22p. Mainhead finished 2p better at 246p in anticipation of figures next week and Rascal moved 5p to the good at 219p. M. K. Electrical were unchanged at 176p but Decca retreated 10p to 280p in the "A" ordinary while the ordinary were 2p lighter at 247p.

Rothmans shares were slightly easier after the activity of late. Cape Asbestos remained firm at 209p but Turner & Newall shed 2p to 116p and Lomax and Stocklake both gave up a penny at 65p and 99p. Equity turnover on November 21 was 72,720,000 (10,563 bar gains. Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph were, ICI, Oil Exploration, Tricentral, BP, New, Lasso, Courtaulds, Becton, Cons Gals, IC Gac, umath, Shell, EMI, BP, Premier, Ultramar, Sainsbury, Rascal, Pilkington Bros, International Thomson, a's and Land Secs.

## Latest results

Company	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Anderson Strathclyde (I)	20.73(23.69)	1.43(1.2)	(-)	1.0(1.0)	4/2	(-3.0)
Alfred Dunhill (I)	31.5(29.4)	3.5(3.2)	(-)	6.0(4.0)	11/1	(-)
Aero Gen (I)	2.1(1.5)	0.3(0.2)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
Becton (I)	507.0(449.0)	63.0(72.7)	(-)	2.88(2.39)	1/2	(9.5)
Brookhouse (F)	70.1(69.4)	2.5(2.5)	9.77(15.11)	2.65(2.24)	14/2	4.85(-)
Century Oils (I)	17.3(10.5)	1.5(0.5)	11.9(4.2)	4.8(0.6)	4/1	(-)
Consolidated (I)	88.0(80.7)	3.0(3.4)	2.8(2.4)	2.8(2.7)	30/1	2.22(2.05)
Empire Plants (F)	2.8(3.02)	0.16(1.08)	2.46(2.08)	(-1.93)	(-)	(1.58)
Ferguson Ind (I)	38.26(26.5)	1.68(0.95)	(-)	2.2(2.0)	10/1	(4.4)
Freemore Holdings (I)	89.0(80.5)	3.5(3.3)	3.7(3.2)	0.95(0.82)	10/1	(-)
M. J. Gleeson (I)	27.0(24.0)	0.9(0.74)	0.9(0.74)	1.3(1.1)	14/1	(-)
Leis (I)	9.9(7.3)	0.44(0.30)	(-)	1.63(1.45)	14/1	(-)
Milbury (I)	5.98(4.53)	0.30(0.33)	1.05(0.13)	2.1(1.34)	18/1	(4.14)
Pauls & Whites (I)	96.0(87.5)	3.0(3.5)	6.68(6.39)	1.75(1.5)	18/1	(7.1)
Powell Duffry (I)	115.7(104.0)	6.18(6.6)	6.18(6.6)	4.25(3.9)	31/1	(-)
Prop Partner (I)	1.14(0.78)	0.24(0.13)	4.64(2.35)	2.0(1.0)	(-)	(2.5)
Redland (I)	225.5(186.6)	22.27(21.95)	11.39(13.23)	2.67(2.55)	31/1	(-)
Renold (I)	60.5(66.6)	2.4(2.5)	2.5(2.5)	2.8(2.7)	2/1	(-)
Rothmans Int (I)	115.7(104.0)	3.14(1.43)	6.36(5.73)	2.5(2.34)	(-)	3.5(2.34)
Sater Elec (I)	1.55(1.13)	0.18(0.27)	2.34(1.04)	(-)	(-)	(1.0)
Triplets Foundry (I)	18.9(17.62)	0.59(0.5)	1.84(1.76)	3.4(3.0)	2/1	(-)
J. O. Walker (I)	3.71(3.2)	0.32(0.08)	11.6(4.0)	3.4(1.0)	2/1	(-)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a=January, b=loss, c=extra payment of 0.13p in respect of reduction in ACT on last year's final dividend. d=adjusted for scrip issue.

## Spring Grove tender planned

By Our Financial Staff  
Charterhouse Group's 16,000 shareholders will, this morning, be considering whether to extend their portfolio of investments into the industrial closed-end company Spring Grove.

Some 15 million of the company's shares are being offered almost exclusively to Charterhouse shareholders by way of a tender.

The shares are being offered at a minimum tender price of 62p through this novel way of bringing a small company to the market. A sale by tender will prevent Charterhouse shareholders being liable for tax on the difference between purchase price and share price on the first dealing day.

Spring Grove, which made pre-tax profits of £17.7m on turnover of just under £20m, has been in the industrial protective clothing and towel retail business since just before the war, although the company was formed in 1957.

Charterhouse has had a stake in Spring Grove since 1934 but it did not become a wholly owned subsidiary until 13 years ago. The investment group are to retain a 40 per cent stake in the company and is expected to make a substantial capital gain on the flotation of at least one third of its total investment.

Also, Spring Grove employees are being offered 750,000 shares in their company.

In the tender document, which is going out to shareholders, Charterhouse forecast a rise in pre-tax profits to at least £3.8m, and a dividend of 4p a share for the year ending October 3, 1980.

The minimum tender price of 62p a share puts a market capitalisation of £15.5m on the company but it is expected the final sale price will reflect a much higher value of Spring Grove. Earnings per share are forecast to rise from last year's 10.61p to 13.7p, on forecasted profits which have had to be trimmed back because of last week's borrowing rate hike.

For gilt as interest rates fall and funds continue to be sought, Akroyd itself, aware that a week is a long time in jobbing, reports: "despite the somewhat turbulent market conditions of the year to date current trading results have been encouraging".

The dividend rise cautiously from 25p a share gross to 28.5p, but the directors stress the desirability of reducing the dividend to 22.5p. The share price has jumped from 3p to 72.5p. The shares rose 10p to 205p. They were introduced at 157p.

announced in June, 1977. The compensation payable is satisfied by the issue of Government stock. This will be effected by the Bank of England as soon as possible.

**Empire Plantations**  
tumbles: no payment  
In the 12 months to March 31, pre-tax profits of Empire Plantations and Investments crashed from a best-ever £1.08m to £16,000 on turnover down from £3.02m to £2.65m. The ordinary dividend is being passed against last year's £2.95p gross. The preference dividend of 5p a share will be paid when the board considers that adequate funds are available in the UK, as will the ordinary payment for the year to March 31, 1978. The board explains that there was a fall in the profitability of Empire's tea estate because of a decline in the crop and the average price.

**Scottish Inv Trust**  
over the £6m mark  
Breaching the £6m barrier for the first time, gross income of the Scottish Investment Trust rose from £5.35m to £5.77m in the 12 months to Oct 31. Net revenue, after tax, was up from £2.77m to £3.58m. The total gross dividend is being lifted from 4.47p to 5.56p.

**Further growth**  
at Milbury  
Following the record pre-tax profits of £1.21m for 1978-79, the Milbury house-building offshoot of St Piran has made further progress in the first six months to September 30. On turnover, up from £4.53m to £5.98m, pre-tax profits rose from £558,000 to £902,000. And the year's results are expected to be "satisfactory", notwithstanding the current scarcity of mortgages and high interest rates. The interim dividend is being lifted from 2p to 3p gross.

**Good first half**  
at Ferguson Holdings  
Having topped the £2m mark last year, the profits of Edinburgh-based Ferguson Industrial Holdings are still soaring. Sales rose by 44 per cent to £38.26m in the six months to August 31, while trading profits jumped by 98 per cent to £2.55m. Pre-tax profits are 77 per cent ahead at £1.68m. This compares with £2.24m made in the whole of 1978-79. Current trading continues to be good, but the board warns, it would be upset by a repetition of last winter's weather and industrial unrest. Meanwhile, the interim dividend is being lifted from 2.9p (adjusted) to 3.14p gross. The board hopes to pay a final 4.25p gross, making 7.42p—an increase of 18 per cent over last year.

**Compensation for**  
John G. Kincaid  
The Department of Industry and Mr A. W. Brookland, of Coopers & Lybrand, stockholders' representative, have announced that compensation under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act, 1977, has now been agreed for the unquoted securities of John G. Kincaid & Company. The total compensation payable is £3,809,375. Payments on account of £1,450,000 and £900,000 towards this were announced in January and November, 1978. Payment of £117,594 for the quoted preference shares was

**Braby Leslie**  
The report in *The Times* yesterday stated that Auto Diesel Braby, a subsidiary of Braby Leslie, had made a loss for the six months ended September 30, 1979. In fact Auto Diesel Braby made a reduced profit due to the closure of important overseas markets and the strength of Sterling. However, orders received by Auto Diesel Braby for generating sets and aircraft starting and servicing equipment during the last three months amount to over £3m including orders placed by British Airways and the United States Air Force, the first received for many years.

**R Jenkins tumbles**  
into interim loss  
A £1m turnover under a loss is reported by Rotherham-based process plant makers, Robert Jenkins (Holdings), the shares of which are traded on the over-the-counter market made by M. J. H. Hingdale. For the half-year to September 30, Jenkins slumped to a pre-tax loss of £498,000, compared with a profit of £528,000 in the similar period last year.

## Rothmans and Dunhill hit by stronger pound

By Rosemary Unsworth  
Half-time figures from the tobacco - co - brewing group, Rothmans International, fell short of market expectations because of the strength of sterling, which hit profit margins, and rising costs which were not matched by price increases.

Pre-tax profits fell by £4.8m to £39.2m while sales excluding taxes and duties rose 15 per cent to £515.7m in the six months to September 30, 1979. Operating profit was sharply hit, dropping from £15.6m to £14.1m during the period. Sir David Nicholson, the chairman, explained that although the overall volume of cigarette sales had exceeded last year's level and the group's export sales from the United Kingdom continued to grow, there were small declines in West Germany and Canada, where there are strong domestic markets. But in France and the United Kingdom satisfactory progress was made. Results from beer, spirits and other markets also improved, he said.

The interim dividend has been raised from 1.19p gross to 1.42p, an increase of 19 per cent. The group's board said that the persistent fluctuations in currencies added weight to the adoption of a conservative dividend policy.

The group's brewing interests doubled their share of sales revenue from £51m to £100m while its share of operating profit show a similar increase from £4.1m to £7.4m.

Higher interest rates and bigger borrowings swallowed up any improvement in profits at annual feed stuffs group, Pauls & Whites. At the trading profit level, the group made a 4 per cent improvement on last year's six months to September 30, 1979, but by the time interest charges had been deducted pre-tax profit at £3m, was £400,000 down on the comparable period. Turnover rose from £87.5m to £96.4m. With capital spending running at a high level and some £20m tied up in stocks of barley, interest charges in the six months to September 30, 1979, were £1.121m.

Although the annual feed stuffs and maltings divisions showed a six-month improvement in the pig production side

Booster by soaring raw material prices, profits at Century Oils leapt 160 per cent to £15m in the six months to September 30.

Sales by the Stock-on-Trent based lubricants and industrial hygiene products manufacturer rose 65 per cent to £17.3m. The group which raised £1.3m in a public rights issue in July to finance its increased working capital requirements, said yesterday that its turnover increase was also helped by a rise in overseas sales and by the volume of activity in UK markets.

An interim payment of 1.14p gross has been declared and the group has already forecast total payments of 5.2p gross on the enlarged capital for the full-year.

The board said yesterday that it expects the higher level of sales to continue in the second half while supply arrangements, stock levels and recycling potential should ensure continuity of supply to customers.

**Business appointments**  
Mr J. Raisman is new chairman of Shell Chemicals

Mr J. M. Raisman has become chairman of Shell Chemicals UK, Mr Raisman, who is deputy chairman and chief executive of Shell UK, succeeds Mr W. C. Thompson who has recently become group managing director of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group. Mr M. J. Wells is moving to the post of Shell Chemicals UK. He succeeds Mr Thompson as Chemical Operations Director, London. Mr Wells is currently chairman of Shell International Chemical.

Mr Simon Jenkins becomes a part-time member of British Railways Board and Miss Kate Morley, an executive with Rothmans merchant bank, becomes a part-time member of the National Sea Cadets.

Mr Malcolm Wilcox is to succeed Mr John Cave as chairman of Midland Bank Finance Corporation. Forward Trust and Midland Mortgage Leasing when Mr Cave retires on December 31, Mr Wilcox will continue in his executive position as a director and chief general manager of Midland Bank.

Mr Barrie Bellamy has become the appointed secretary of Merchants Investment Assurance and Mr Ken French becomes pension manager.

**Options**  
Traded options continued to take a beat set yesterday and the results from ICI, Courtaulds and Becton seemed to make very little difference. Total contracts amounted to 583 compared with the previous day's figure of 613. Some interest was shown in Courtaulds and ICI ahead of just after the figures but this was described as thin.

Traditional options were slightly more active mainly on the back of the interest being shown in North Sea shares with calls being arranged in Tricentral, Ultramar, and KCA.

## Redland marks time but scrip lifts payout

By winning on the roundabout what is lost on the savings, building material supplier Redland turned near same again interim profits.

In the six months to September 29, 1979, the group made a pre-tax profit of £22.7m against a previous £21.95m on sales £39m higher at £225.49m. However, expectations for the second half are "rather higher" and the board intend to pay a maintained dividend on top of an interim one-for-four scrip issue. This will increase the payout to shareholders by 25 per cent.

The main improvement in the first half came from West German subsidiary, B. & C. Factory Brack, which manufactures concrete roof tiles. With the building of houses at record levels the sales volume growth will maintain its momentum for the next couple of years at least.

By contrast a collapse in the volume and price of concrete pipes swung the UK division from a previous £1m profit into a loss. There is also some concern over the downturn in housebuilding in this country which will hamper the growth prospects of the concrete tiles division.

However, an improvement in rail links between the main Midlands quarry and the South of England depots should help the crushed stone side to maintain costs.

The contribution from the overseas subsidiaries where the financial year coincides with the calendar year - slipped slightly to £4.95m because of the bad winter months of January, February and March. The second half profits are expected to improve on last year's performance.

With borrowings currently running at around £13m, interest charges for the full year are likely to be high.

The additional charges are related to the financing of a \$56m acquisition in America. Although this was 50 per cent paid by the German subsidiary the balance has been charged against UK profits.

The shares improved 3p to 164p yesterday where they yield a prospective 7.2 per cent.

## Interest drag on Pauls

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## First nine months' results

The Board of Directors of Imperial Chemical Industries Limited announce the following audited trading results of the Group for the first nine months of 1979, with comparative figures for 1978.

1978	1979		1979
First Nine Months	Year	First Nine Months	Year
(restated)	£ millions	(restated)	£ millions
3,341	4,533	Sales to external customers	3,893
334	421	Profit before taxation and grants	415
160	225	After providing for:	
26	39	Depreciation	181
75	100	Exchange loss on net current assets of overseas subsidiaries	29
259	321	Taxation less grants	84
-11	-17	Profit after taxation and grants	331
248	304	Profit applicable to parent company before extraordinary items	315
-7	-3	Extraordinary items	-9
241	301	Profit applicable to parent company after extraordinary items	306

Group sales in the first nine months of 1979 were £3,893m (1978 £3,341m) an increase of 17%. The value of sales in the UK increased by £398m to £1,244m and in overseas markets by £254m to £2,649m. The f.o.b. value of exports from the UK was £785m (1978 £641m).

Sales in the third quarter (£1,326m) were lower than those achieved in the second quarter (£1,382m). The decrease was due to volume reductions, partly of a seasonal nature, offset to some extent by price rises to compensate for feedstock cost increases.

Profits in the third quarter were lower than those achieved in the second quarter. Selling price increases were more than offset by reductions in volume, higher pay for UK employees and further raw material price increases. Oil trading profits (including Ninian) continue to make a significant contribution to Group results, and in the third quarter these amounted to £30m after the provision of £8m Petroleum Revenue Tax.

The following table summarises the quarterly sales and profits before taxation:

	Group sales	Excluding exchange gain/loss	Exchange gain/loss	Total
1978	£m	£m	£m	£m

1st Quarter	1,060	119	-7	112
2nd Quarter	1,156	136	-3	139
3rd Quarter	1,125	105	-22	83
4th Quarter	1,192	100	-13	87
Year	4,533	460	-39	421

1979	1st Quarter	1,185	107	-9	98
	2nd Quarter	1,382	182	-20	162
	3rd Quarter	1,326	155	-	155

On a current cost accounting basis, the total of additional depreciation, cost of sales adjustment and erosion of the value of trade debtors less creditors would have reduced Group profit before tax and grants for the first nine months of 1979 by £26



## FINANCIAL NEWS

## House of Fraser slumps

Richard Allen, the Harrods department store group, saw its tumble from 102.5 to 97.5 in three months to October 27. Trading conditions continued to deteriorate in the wake of the VAT increase. As a result, profits for the nine months of the year down 30 per cent to £10.6m. The group's chairman, Sir Hugh Fraser, had warned at an interim stage that trading had become particularly difficult since the June VAT rise. However, the actual outcome was much worse than stock market observers feared. He shares dropped 3p to 102.5 yesterday.



Sir Hugh Fraser, chairman of the House of Fraser.

He says that trade showed signs of picking up in mid-October and since the beginning of the present month sales

have been running at more than 17 per cent above those of the same period last year.

Despite the third-quarter slump sales for the first nine months of the year are 11 per cent ahead at £415m and trading profits are down less than 10 per cent at £23m.

But interest charges have climbed by two-fifths to £5.7m and the depreciation charge is almost £1m higher at £6.6m.

Meanwhile, interest in House of Fraser shares continues to centre on speculation that Louhio could make a takeover move. Louhio holds fractionally less than 30 per cent of House of Fraser and its chairman, Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland is deputy chairman of Fraser.

Since Louhio made its financial deal with American billionaire, Mr Daniel K. Ludwig, earlier this year speculation that a full bid is in the offing has only increased.

## French Kier ends half year 10 pc up

Despite difficult trading conditions in the British construction market and bad weather, French Kier Holdings made a 10 per cent increase in both profit and turnover during the first half.

Pre-tax profit amounted to £3.6m and turnover totalled £89m in the six months to June 30, 1979.

Profit contribution from construction in Europe division fell to £1.6m because of "particularly difficult trading period in Robert Marriott Group", explained Mr John Mott, the chairman. This decline was,

however, offset by an increased contribution to £1.3m from Construction Overseas. The anticipated profit increase from Property Development and Investment came through at £250,000 while Products and Services' profit rose slightly to £200,000.

An interim dividend of 1.35p gross has been declared compared with 1.23p, which represents a 15 per cent increase. Earnings per share have risen to 3.7p compared with 3.2p.

Mr Mott added that he expects a "satisfactory outcome to the group's operations."

## Brockhouse lower

By Rosemary Unsworth  
Brockhouse, the West Bromwich-based engineering group, has suffered along with the rest of the sector because of the summer strike and the haulage dispute last winter.

Pre-tax profits fell from £3.5m to £2.5m while turnover rose by a fraction from £69.3m to £70.1m in the year ending September 31, 1979. The general engineering division's profit was halved to £443,000 while the handling and process plant division results fell from £1.3m to £471,000 profit during the period. But despite the results, Mr Reg Parkes, chairman, said

there would be no cutback in the group's two year £5m capital expenditure programme. The sale of the company's South African subsidiary realised £337,000.

A final dividend of 3.45p gross has been recommended compared with 3.35p last year, making a 1979 total of 6.95p against 6.2p.

Mr Parkes added that the Iranian revolution and the strength of sterling against the dollar had also hit the group's results although there had been improved performance in north America where further expansion was planned.

## Powell Duffryn slips to £6.1m after strike and lower demand

By Alison Mitchell  
The £1m cost of the engineering strike coupled to a downturn in demand has left Powell Duffryn with reduced interim earnings.

In the six months to September 30, 1979, pre-tax profit slipped from a previous £6.6m to £6.1m on turnover up 13 per cent to £176m.

Stripping out interest charges, which amounted to £1.6m against £1.47m last time, profits at the trading level increased by almost 10 per cent to £7.8m.

Chairman Mr Christopher Aston admitted that this charge would rise further at the year end because of rising interest

rates and bigger borrowings. Gearing on this year's balance sheet is likely to amount to 20 per cent against 15 per cent last time.

Although capital spending, which includes the recent acquisition in America, is currently running at an annual rate of £20m, the group has no plans for a rights issue.

Stripping out Hymak, which has been sold to German group IRI—now 24.9 per cent owned by Powell—the engineering division contributed £1.68m against £3m. However the backlog of orders following the strike has helped the order book and the chairman anticipated a better showing from this division in the second half.

With two more ships on order the shipping side on expected to continue to increase profits while the other divisions all show rising contributions.

Second half earnings will be helped by a first time contribution from the recently acquired National Pump Company in Arizona and the new bulk liquid terminal in Australia which is now on stream.

For shareholders there is a 9 per cent increase in the interim dividend to 6p and the chairman is confident that the final payment will be raised by the same amount provided second half profits continue to improve.

## Murdoch calls off bid for Herald

The bid by Australian newspaper chief Mr Rupert Murdoch to buy the country's biggest press group, the Herald and Weekly Times, has come to an abrupt end.

Mr Murdoch withdrew his takeover bid and sold his 31m shares for about £519.3m (about £8.6m per share).

But while Herald executives celebrated their refusal of Mr Murdoch's offer, their retention of control of the group, business experts were trying to work out who emerged as victor.

Conservative members in Melbourne, where the Herald group is based, claimed that Mr Murdoch planned to use his profits to help start a new newspaper in Melbourne in competition with the Melbourne Herald—the Herald group's main publication.

The Murdoch takeover bid ended in the face of tough opposition from Herald shareholders and severe criticism of a number of fronts.

The Australian Journalists' Association as well as federal politicians attacked the bid as a Murdoch attempt to gain monopoly of Australia's media.

Mr Murdoch said that his group may want to reconsider its position regarding its unsuccessful bid for control of the Herald and Weekly Times Group.

Mr Murdoch said in a statement that despite the Herald's planned one-for-two bonus share issue, its stock closed at AS3.45 in Melbourne.

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earnings during the first seven months rose to 176.3m francs (about £19m) from 169.4m in the similar 1978 period.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, the company expects to pay an unchanged dividend for 1979. Last year it paid a net of 18 francs per share.

Company chairman M. Michel Caplain told a group of financial analysts that current world uncertainties should not pose any major problem in the recycling of dollars. It was easy to replace the dollar as an international asset, and no country wanted its currency to become a reserve asset, he said.

Alusuisse forecast  
Schweizerische Aluminium AG (Alusuisse) of Switzerland expects results for 1979 to be similar to last year's, the company has told shareholders.

Group net profit in 1978 fell to 94.1m Swiss francs (about £25.4m) from 153m.

Group's third party sales in the first nine months of this year were 16 per cent higher than the same time a year ago, but would have been 19 per cent higher at unchanged exchange rates.

Boeing seeks listing  
The Boeing Corporation has asked for a listing of its shares on Swiss bourse from early next year, a Zurich bourse commission spokesman announced.

An application was received by the federal bourse authorities but neither they nor the National Bank have yet given their final approval, he said.

The general requirement for listing of foreign shares on Swiss bourses is 10m francs market value of stock held by at least 250 different Swiss investors. Union Bank of Switzerland will present the company to financial analysts in mid-January.

Goodrich-Pirelli deal  
B F Goodrich Company of Ohio, says it has reached tentative agreement to sell the assets of its Brazilian tyre manufacturing subsidiary B F Goodrich do Brasil SA to Pirelli SA de Industria Brasileira for an undisclosed amount.

B F Goodrich says the sale, if approved by the Brazilian government, will have a moderately positive effect on income in the fourth quarter of 1979.

Barlow Rand  
The improved performance by various listed Barlow Rand subsidiaries that have reported in the past two weeks is reflected in the audited figures by the holding company—Barlow Rand, South Africa's largest industrial group.

Turnover has increased by 41 per cent to R659.6m (about £341.7m) from R1,624.0m to R2,283.6m. This gives the group a turnover of over R10m per working day.

The group's margins have also improved. Pretax profit has risen by 47 per cent to R101.6m to R315.7m from £214.0m.

Earnings per share at 118.6 cents have grown by 34 per cent or 30 cents on a higher ordinary and preferred ordinary share capital. The total dividend of 38 cents for the year against 30 cents for 1978 represents an increase of 27 per cent. The dividend is covered 3.1 times.

## International

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## Jacques Borel Int

Net turnover for Jacques Borel Int. was 1,650m francs (about £178,000) in the first nine months of this year.

Cie Financiere de Suez holding company for a major French private banking group, says that

the Finance Ministry does not want to raise long-term interest rates in a round national bond coupon rates as it does not want to increase the cost of national bond flotation in the year starting next April, for which it is compiling a national budget.

## Euromarkets

quired to show the difference between book value and market prices as losses, the Underwriters Association said.

The Finance Ministry does not want to raise long-term interest rates in a round national bond coupon rates as it does not want to increase the cost of national bond flotation in the year starting next April, for which it is compiling a national budget.

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## French Kier projections confirmed

The Chairman, J. C. S. Mott, F.I.C.E., F.I. Struct. E. reports:

The Group profit before taxation for the first six months of the current financial year was, at £3.6m, an improvement of approximately 10% over the comparable period for 1978. Turnover, at £89.0m, was an increase of just over 10% for the same period.

The Directors are pleased to declare an interim dividend of 0.95p per ordinary share (1978 0.825p) in respect of the year to 31st December, 1979. This is an increase of 15% on the interim dividend paid last year. This dividend, which will be paid on 28th December, 1979 to shareholders registered at the close of business on 7th December, 1979, together with the related tax credit makes a gross distribution of 1.3571p per ordinary share (1978 1.2313p).

I am pleased to be able to report that each of the four main operating divisions traded profitably. However, the respective contributions differ from last year, reflecting the difficult trading conditions in the U.K. construction market and the adverse weather conditions on which I commented in my Statement to Shareholders contained in the Annual Report for 1978.

A decrease in aggregate profit contribution from 'Construction in Europe', due to a particularly difficult trading period in Robert Marriott Group Limited, has been offset by an increase in the contribution from 'Construction Overseas'. The anticipated increased profit contribution from 'Property Development and Investment' has been achieved, together with a small increase from 'Products and Services'.

The volume of our order book has been maintained. The results, achieved at the half year stage, reinforce the management projections to which I referred in last year's Annual Report. These indicated, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, a satisfactory outcome to the Group's operations during 1979.

## GROUP SUMMARISED TRADING RESULTS (unaudited)

	6 months to 30.6.79	6 months to 30.6.78	Year to 31.12.78
	£000	£000	£000
Turnover	89,000	80,500	163,200
Profit before tax	3,600	3,300	7,526
Tax	(1,875)	(1,725)	(3,527)
Profit after tax	1,725	1,575	3,999
Minority interests	25	(35)	(84)
Extraordinary items	(40)	(115)	(305)
Attributable profits	1,710	1,425	3,610
Dividends	(451)	(392)	(915)
Retained	1,259	1,033	2,695
Earnings per share	3.7p	3.2p	8.2p

**FK**  
works worldwide

French Kier Holdings Limited



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Triplex Foundries down by 31 pc

Strikes in the engineering industry helped to send profits of Triplex Foundries falling by 31 per cent to £696,554 against £1,020m in the six months to September 30, 1979. Turnover during the period was marginally up at £18.9m compared with £17.52m last time.

Foundries were the hardest hit of the group's three main divisions. Although turnover improved slightly, the increase did not reflect 12 months inflation and the £11.53m (£10.7m) figure resulted in pre-tax profits down 49 per cent at £259,000.

The group attributes the foundries divisions' poor performance to low levels of demand, especially during the last half of the period when its customers were hard hit by strikes.

Triplex's engineering division managed to hold its own during the period under review with pre-tax profits falling by only one per cent on turnover up under six per cent at £3,127m.

Industrial services also suffered a downturn with taxable profits being trimmed by nearly £48,000 to £194,000.

## Advance by ExTel

By Our Financial Staff

Acquisitions during the half-year to September 30, 1979, account for Exchange Telegraph's massive uplift in turnover from £12.76m to £32.95m. During the period under review the group added Royds Advertising through Wigmores Holdings and extended its printing activities by buying Shaw & Sons.

But the uplift in turnover was not reflected in grossly improved profits. Pre-tax profits for the half year only improved by 10 per cent to £1,412m against £1,270m.

Potential profits growth did not materialize during the period because of industrial action which hit both the printing and advertising arms. Royds suffered from the television summer shut down and the en-

gineers strike which hit the advertising company's clients. On the printing side, Burroughs was seriously affected during August and September not only from a downturn in its City business but also an industrial dispute. To a degree this was compensated by the newly acquired Shaw & Sons which benefited from election printing earlier in the year.

But the chairman, Mr John Harvey reports that most activities in the group showed solid progress. Increased profits were progress. Increased profits were and financial news services.

The directors point out that comparative interim profit figures have been adjusted to reflect a change in accounting policy at March 31 1979 relating to the treatment of deferred costs.

## Strathclyde loss

Despite full order books in the mining equipment division Anderson Strathclyde turned a £121m profit into a £143m loss during the six months to September 29, 1979.

The mining and industrial manufacturer was hard hit at the beginning of the period under review by a nine week strike by its Motherwell plant workers which brought production to a halt. This was then followed by the national engineers dispute in August and September.

Production losses resulted in turnover falling by nearly 12.5

per cent from £23.69m to £20.73m.

Also contributing to Anderson Strathclyde's problems were the high interest charges of £1m. The group has been steadily increasing its borrowings over the past 18 months and the higher charges reflect a full order book. Exchange losses of £146,000 did little to help the situation.

The board states that order books continue to be heavy and with a more settled industrial climate the directors are forecasting full year profits reaching the level of last year which was £4.08m.

## PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWING REQUIREMENT

The following are the figures released by the CSO for the Government borrowing requirement:

Financial year	£m	£m	£m
1977-78	4,431	4,800	5,555
1978-79	8,082	9,031	9,251
1979-80	1,453	2,110	1,637
Q2	2,265	2,223	2,009
Q3	2,193	2,389	2,129
Q4	2,527	2,375	2,616
1979-80	1,197	2,094	2,497
Q2	3,415	3,235	3,178
Q3	3,628	3,519	3,458

General government borrowing requirement comprises the central government borrowing requirement and the local authorities contribution to the PSBR.

## CAPITAL SPENDING

The following are the figures published yesterday by the Department of Industry for the fixed capital expenditure of manufacturing, distributing service and shipping industries and for stocks, all seasonally adjusted at 1975 prices.

Year	£m	£m	£m
1978	7,599	3,341	700
1977	8,418	3,637	870
1976	8,764	3,653	895
Q1	2,047	876	663
Q2	2,059	888	452
Q3	2,123	919	79
Q4	2,188	944	134
1978	2,182	945	191
Q2	2,222	970	238
Q3	2,195	966	268
Q4	2,185	971	203
1979	2,175	952	195
Q2	2,258	928	371
Q3	2,255	947	207

## QUEEN STREET WAREHOUSE

Negotiations for the proposed sale at John Webb (furnishers) subsidiary are expected to be completed in the near future. Proposed purchaser is Mr Leslie Goldbart, a director.

## MORE O'FERRALL

Mr E. R. More O'Ferrall disposed of 30,000 ordinary shares in More O'Ferrall, reducing his holding to 1.6m shares (26.182 per cent).

## Recent Issues

Company	Price	Yield	P/E
ABN Bank	17	6.7	8.7
Barclays Bank	17	6.7	8.7
BCCI Bank	17	6.7	8.7
Consolidated Crds	17	6.7	8.7
C. Hoare & Co	17	6.7	8.7
Lloyds Bank	17	6.7	8.7
London Mercantile	17	6.7	8.7
Midland Bank	17	6.7	8.7
Nat Westminster	17	6.7	8.7
Paragon	17	6.7	8.7
TSB	17	6.7	8.7
Williams and Glyn's	17	6.7	8.7

## Bank Base Rates

Bank	Rate
ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Crds	17%
C. Hoare & Co	17%
Lloyds Bank	17%
London Mercantile	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Nat Westminster	17%
Paragon	17%
TSB	17%
Williams and Glyn's	17%

## M. J. H. Nightingale &amp; Co. Limited

62-63 Threadneedle Street, London, EC2R 8HP. Tel: 01-638 8651. The Over-the-Counter Market

High	Low	Company	Price	Yield	P/E
99	39	Airsprung Group	77	-1	6.7
30	42	Arvink Rhodes	22	-1	6.7
222	143	Bardon Hill	77	-1	6.7
101	50	Deborah Ord	93	-5.0	5.4
93	93	Deborah New Ord	93	-5.0	5.4
353	140	Deborah 17% CULS	93	-5.0	5.4
137	100	Frederick Barker	110	-12.2	12.2
138	110	George Blair	110	-16.5	15.0
61	45	Jackson Group	60	+1.2	8.7
153	97	James Burroughs	113	-4.7	6.2
342	250	Robert Jenkins	230	-11.3	12.5
232	130	Torday Limited	236	-14.3	6.2
34	14	Twinkl Ord	75	-1.0	8.4
82	69	Twinkl 12% ULS	75	-12.0	16.0
55	23	Unilock Holdings	53	+1.2	6.4
84	42	Walter Alexander	80	-4.4	5.5
190	136	W. S. Yeates	183	+1.1	6.3
189	185	W. S. Yeates New	186	-1.1	6.3

\*Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP15

## A. Beckman Limited

Fabric Merchants and Converters

## A RECORD YEAR FOR SALES AND PROFITS

Year ended 30th June	1979	1978
Turnover	£m	£m
Profit before tax	19.1	16.3
Profit after tax	2.2	1.8
Earnings per share	1.0	0.87
	10.28p	8.56p

Mr. S. Beckman, Chairman, reports:

- Turnover has increased by 17% and profit before tax by 21%.
- Final dividend is 3.78p per share, making a total of 5.73p for the year (equivalent with associated tax credit of 8.19p) a 10% increase on last year's gross dividend.
- We will continue to concentrate upon the maintenance and expansion of our market share.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, 111-113 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6PA.

## Commodities

TO-DO-DO. Sales, six at five tonnes.

RUBBER. Government rubber, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

COFFEE. Very steady. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

TEA. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

WHEAT. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

BARLEY. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

MAIZE. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

SUGAR. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

COTTON. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Wool. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Aluminium. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Copper. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Lead. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Zinc. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Nickel. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Platinum. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Palladium. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Rhodium. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Iridium. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Rosin. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Shellac. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Vanilla. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Saffron. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Cardamom. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Pepper. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Cinnamon. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Cloves. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Coriander. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Fenugreek. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Mustard. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Sesame. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Sunflower. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

Flax. 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes, 100 tonnes.

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## Foreign exchange report

Both the dollar and sterling from PLO sources in Tunis that the Shah goes to another country the Iranians will release the market.

Thanksgiving. Sterling was lower for most of the session but recovered to 2,170, a 10-point gain overall. The effective exchange index closed unchanged at 89.6 (after 89.4).

The dollar was lower for most of the day but rallied on a report

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from PLO sources in Tunis that the Shah goes to another country the Iranians will release the market.

Thanksgiving. Sterling was lower for most of the session but recovered to 2,170, a 10-point gain overall. The effective exchange index closed unchanged at 89.6 (after 89.4).

The dollar was lower for most of the day but rallied on a report

from PLO sources in Tunis that the Shah goes to another country the Iranians will release the market.



# Stock Exchange Prices Weaker tone

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Nov 19. Dealings end, Dec 7. Contango day, Dec 10. Settlement day, Dec 17.  
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



1979-80			1978-79			1977-78			1976-77			1975-76			1974-75			1973-74			1972-73			1971-72			1970-71			1969-70			1968-69			1967-68			1966-67			1965-66			1964-65			1963-64			1962-63			1961-62			1960-61			1959-60			1958-59			1957-58			1956-57			1955-56			1954-55			1953-54			1952-53			1951-52			1950-51			1949-50			1948-49			1947-48			1946-47			1945-46			1944-45			1943-44			1942-43			1941-42			1940-41			1939-40			1938-39			1937-38			1936-37			1935-36			1934-35			1933-34			1932-33			1931-32			1930-31			1929-30			1928-29			1927-28			1926-27			1925-26			1924-25			1923-24			1922-23			1921-22			1920-21			1919-20			1918-19			1917-18			1916-17			1915-16			1914-15			1913-14			1912-13			1911-12			1910-11			1909-10			1908-09			1907-08			1906-07			1905-06			1904-05			1903-04			1902-03			1901-02			1900-01			1899-00			1898-99			1897-98			1896-97			1895-96			1894-95			1893-94			1892-93			1891-92			1890-91			1889-90			1888-89			1887-88			1886-87			1885-86			1884-85			1883-84			1882-83			1881-82			1880-81			1879-80			1878-79			1877-78			1876-77			1875-76			1874-75			1873-74			1872-73			1871-72			1870-71			1869-70			1868-69			1867-68			1866-67			1865-66			1864-65			1863-64			1862-63			1861-62			1860-61			1859-60			1858-59			1857-58			1856-57			1855-56			1854-55			1853-54			1852-53			1851-52			1850-51			1849-50			1848-49			1847-48			1846-47			1845-46			1844-45			1843-44			1842-43			1841-42			1840-41			1839-40			1838-39			1837-38			1836-37			1835-36			1834-35			1833-34			1832-33			1831-32			1830-31			1829-30			1828-29			1827-28			1826-27			1825-26			1824-25			1823-24			1822-23			1821-22			1820-21			1819-20			1818-19			1817-18			1816-17			1815-16			1814-15			1813-14			1812-13			1811-12			1810-11			1809-10			1808-09			1807-08			1806-07			1805-06			1804-05			1803-04			1802-03			1801-02			1800-01			1799-00			1798-99			1797-98			1796-97			1795-96			1794-95			1793-94			1792-93			1791-92			1790-91			1789-90			1788-89			1787-88			1786-87			1785-86			1784-85			1783-84			1782-83			1781-82			1780-81			1779-80			1778-79			1777-78			1776-77			1775-76			1774-75			1773-74			1772-73			1771-72			1770-71			1769-70			1768-69			1767-68			1766-67			1765-66			1764-65			1763-64			1762-63			1761-62			1760-61			1759-60			1758-59			1757-58			1756-57			1755-56			1754-55			1753-54			1752-53			1751-52			1750-51			1749-50			1748-49			1747-48			1746-47			1745-46			1744-45			1743-44			1742-43			1741-42			1740-41			1739-40			1738-39			1737-38			1736-37			1735-36			1734-35			1733-34			1732-33			1731-32			1730-31			1729-30			1728-29			1727-28			1726-27			1725-26			1724-25			1723-24			1722-23			1721-22			1720-21			1719-20			1718-19			1717-18			1716-17			1715-16			1714-15			1713-14			1712-13			1711-12			1710-11			1709-10			1708-09			1707-08			1706-07			1705-06			1704-05			1703-04			1702-03			1701-02			1700-01			1699-00			1698-99			1697-98			1696-97			1695-96			1694-95			1693-94			1692-93			1691-92			1690-91			1689-90			1688-89			1687-88			1686-87			1685-86			1684-85			1683-84			1682-83			1681-82			1680-81			1679-80			1678-79			1677-78			1676-77			1675-76			1674-75			1673-74			1672-73			1671-72			1670-71			1669-70			1668-69			1667-68			1666-67			1665-66			1664-65			1663-64			1662-63			1661-62			1660-61			1659-60			1658-59			1657-58			1656-57			1655-56			1654-55			1653-54			1652-53			1651-52			1650-51			1649-50			1648-49			1647-48			1646-47			1645-46			1644-45			1643-44			1642-43			1641-42			1640-41			1639-40			1638-39			1637-38			1636-37			1635-36			1634-35			1633-34			1632-33			1631-32			1630-31			1629-30			1628-29			1627-28			1626-27			1625-26			1624-25			1623-24			1622-23			1621-22			1620-21			1619-20			1618-19			1617-18			1616-17			1615-16			1614-15			1613-14			1612-13			1611-12			1610-11			1609-10			1608-09			1607-08			1606-07			1605-06			1604-05			1603-04			1602-03			1601-02			1600-01			1599-00			1598-99			1597-98			1596-97			1595-96			1594-95			1593-94			1592-93			1591-92			1590-91			1589-90			1588-89			1587-88			1586-87			1585-86			1584-85			1583-84			1582-83			1581-82			1580-81			1579-80			1578-79			1577-78			1576-77			1575-76			1574-75			1573-74			1572-73			1571-72			1570-71			1569-70			1568-69			1567-68			1566-67			1565-66			1564-65			1563-64			1562-63			1561-62			1560-61			1559-60			1558-59			1557-58			1556-57			1555-56			1554-55			1553-54			1552-53			1551-52			1550-51			1549-50			1548-49			1547-48			1546-47			1545-46			1544-45			1543-44			1542-43			1541-42			1540-41			1539-40			1538-39			1537-38			1536-37			1535-36			1534-35			1533-34			1532-33			1531-32			1530-31			1529-30			1528-29			1527-28			1526-27			1525-26			1524-25			1523-24			1522-23			1521-22			1520-21			1519-20			1518-19			1517-18			1516-17			1515-16			1514-15			1513-14			1512-13			1511-12			1510-11			1509-10			1508-09			1507-08			1506-07			1505-06			1504-05			1503-04			1502-03			1501-02			1500-01			1499-00			1498-99			1497-98			1496-97			1495-96			1494-95			1493-94			1492-93			1491-92			1490-91			1489-90			1488-89			1487-88			1486-87			1485-86			1484-85			1483-84			1482-83			1481-82			1480-81			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